



Institutional Educational Vision, Goals, and Objectives

Vision:

Graduates of the TTUHSC-SOM will be knowledgeable, competent, and compassionate clinicians who communicate and collaborate with patients and colleagues in a caring and professional fashion.

The curriculum that prepares these graduates will emphasize acquisition and application of medical knowledge, clinical skills, and professional behaviors. Multiple modalities of instruction which promote integration of basic and clinical science information, development of problem solving and clinical reasoning abilities, and development of life-long learning habits will be utilized.

The educators involved in the instruction of these graduates will be role models who reflect and emphasize professionalism in their teaching, science, clinical care of patients, and modes of communication with patients and colleagues.

Goals:

The goal of medical education at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine is to promote excellence in the clinical, scientific, and humanistic skills of our graduates and to instill the competence and compassion that distinguishes outstanding physicians. Our program is designed to graduate physicians who:

- I.** Provide competent and humane medical care to individuals, families and the larger society based on the scientific and clinical principles of health and its promotion; of disease and its prevention and management; and of psychosocial factors influencing patients well being.
- II.** Demonstrate competence in life-long learning including self-directed study of basic and clinical science, critical assessment of medical literature, and use of evidence-based medicine.
- III.** Demonstrate proficiency in clinical assessment, namely the ability to obtain a patient's history, to perform a comprehensive physical examination, and to assess and treat patients' medical and emotional needs.
- IV.** Demonstrate proficiency in clinical reasoning, including identification of clinical problems using scientific methods, data collection, hypothesis formulation, and the retrieval, management, and appropriate use of biomedical information for decision-making.
- V.** Demonstrate sensitivity to the diverse psychosocial and spiritual needs of their patients and communicate clearly, respectfully, and compassionately with their patients, their families and other health care professionals.
- VI.** Display the highest standards of professional integrity and exemplary behavior, including compassion, truthfulness, and ethical reasoning.

Objectives:

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine has identified key objectives for our educational program relating to the knowledge, skills, behaviors, and attitudes for students acquiring the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Further, the TTUHSC SOM endorses the competencies in patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems-based practice recognized by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Each course and clerkship sets forth specific learning objectives and their outcome measurements based on these key educational objectives. The School of Medicine will continue to review these objectives to ensure that the vision and goals are met.

A. Knowledge: *The student will demonstrate an exemplary and contemporary fund of knowledge in basic and clinical sciences essential to the practice of medicine, to also include:*

1. Scientific method and its application to problem solving in the basic and clinical sciences.
2. Analytical tools for data collection, quantitative analysis, critical reading and investigation, and evidence-based medicine, and their application to the clinical care of patients.
3. Definition of clinical problems and formulation of differential diagnosis, diagnostic investigation, clinical treatment and management by application of data from the clinical interview and clinical examination.
4. Organization of the health care delivery system and the professional, legal, and ethical expectations of physicians.
5. Principles of behavioral and social sciences as applied to family systems and their effect on patient health.

B. Skills: *The student will demonstrate excellence in patient care, including the ability to:*

1. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with patients and their families, colleagues, and other health care professionals about clinical assessments and findings, diagnostic testing, and therapeutic interventions.
2. Conduct comprehensive and problem-specific physical examinations appropriate to the patients' concerns, symptoms, and history.
3. Integrate the patient interview and physical examination findings with medical knowledge to identify the clinical problems of patients, formulate differential diagnoses, and develop plans for treatment, diagnostic investigation, and management.
4. Utilize varied methods of self-directed learning and information technology to acquire information in the basic and clinical sciences needed for patient care.
5. Interpret laboratory results and diagnostic procedures.
6. Select and perform basic diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

C. Behaviors: *The student will model the professional behaviors of a skilled and competent physician, including:*

1. Patient care based on evidence, skilled clinical reasoning, and the current state of medical art and science.
2. Patient care that is compassionate and empathic, particularly in settings involving pain management, substance abuse, mental health disorders, or terminal illness.
3. Sensitivity to the diverse factors affecting patients and their health care beliefs and needs, including age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, culture, income, and ethnicity.
4. Demeanor, speech, and appearance consistent with professional and community standards.
5. Dedication to the highest ethical standards governing physician-patient relationships, including privacy, confidentiality, and the fiduciary role of the physician and health care systems.

D. Attitudes: *The student's attitude will exemplify the highest ethical standards, including:*

1. Respect for each patient's unique needs and background and how they affect the patient's concerns, values, and health care decisions.
2. Recognition of the social nature of health care and respect for patients, other health care professionals, and administrative members of the health care systems.
3. Commitment to life-long learning as a hallmark of professional excellence throughout a physician's career.