



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
School of Medicine™

Institutional Educational Vision, Goals, and Objectives

Approved: May 10, 2010

Vision: Graduates of the TTUHSC-SOM will be knowledgeable, competent, and compassionate health professionals who work diligently to improve the health of the public.

Goal: The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine will graduate physicians who deliver patient-centered care as members of an interdisciplinary team, emphasizing evidence-based practice, quality improvement approaches, and informatics.

Objectives: To accomplish our goal, the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine has identified key objectives for our program that address the knowledge, skills, behaviors, and attitudes needed for students to acquire the degree of Doctor of Medicine. These objectives are designed to ensure that students acquire the six core competencies described by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education: patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems-based practice. Each block, clerkship and rotation 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 and revise as needed to ensure that the vision and goals are met.

Upon completion of all required courses and clinical educational experiences the student will be able to:

C. Patient Care: *(That is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health)*

1. Participate in competent and humane medical care of individuals, families and the larger society based on the scientific and clinical principles of health and its promotion, disease and its prevention and management, and psychosocial factors influencing the well-being of patients.
2. Assess the clinical status of patients to include obtaining a patient's history, performing a comprehensive physical examination, and assessing and describing treatment plans to address the medical and emotional needs of the patient.
3. Evaluate the clinical status of patients through 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.

Institutional Educational Vision, Goals, and Objectives, Continued

K. Medical Knowledge: *(Of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and behavioral sciences and their application to patient care)*

1. Describe the application of the scientific method for solving problems in the basic and clinical sciences.
2. Complete both comprehensive and problem-specific physical examinations appropriate to the concerns, symptoms, and history of the patient.
3. Integrate the patient interview and physical examination findings with medical knowledge to identify the clinical problems of patients, formulate differential diagnoses, apply the scientific method and develop plans for diagnostic investigation, treatment, and management.
4. Describe the application of laboratory tests and diagnostic procedures and interpret their results.
5. Analyze clinical problems and formulate differential diagnoses, diagnostic investigations and clinical treatment and management plans by applying data from the clinical interview and clinical examination.
6. Participate in the selection and performance of basic diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

L. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement: *(The investigation and evaluation of patient care practices, appraisal and assimilation of scientific evidence and improvement of patient care practices)*

1. Apply evidence-based care to patients and use skilled clinical reasoning and the current state of medical art and science.
2. Use analytical tools for data collection, quantitative analysis, critical reading and investigation, and apply these data to the clinical care of patients.
3. Use self-directed learning and information technology to acquire information from the basic and clinical sciences needed for patient care.
4. Demonstrate commitment to life-long learning, including self-directed study of basic and clinical science, critical assessment of the medical literature, and the use of evidence-based medicine.

Institutional Educational Vision, Goals, and Objectives, Continued

I. Interpersonal and Communication Skills: *(The ability to effectively exchange information and collaborate with patients, their families, and other health professionals)*

1. Communicate effectively, both verbally and non-verbally, with patients and their families, colleagues, and other health care professionals about clinical assessments and findings, diagnostic testing, therapeutic interventions, prognosis, and disease processes.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the social nature of health care and the need for respect for patients, other health care professionals, and administrative members of the health care systems.

P. Professionalism: *(The behaviors of a competent, compassionate, and ethical physician)*

1. Demonstrate professional integrity and exemplary behavior, including compassion, truthfulness, ethical reasoning, and altruism.
2. Demonstrate sensitivity to the diverse biopsychosocial, cultural, and spiritual needs of patients and communicate clearly, respectfully, and compassionately with patients, their families and other health care professionals.
3. Participate in patient care that is compassionate and empathic, including pain management, substance abuse, mental health disorders, or terminal illness.
4. Demonstrate dedication to the highest ethical standards governing physician-patient relationships, including privacy, confidentiality, and the fiduciary role of the physician and health care systems.

S. System-Based Practice: *(The larger context and system of healthcare that includes effective use of resources in the system to provide optimum health care)*

1. Describe the organization of the health care delivery system and the professional, economic, legal, and ethical expectations of physicians.
2. Demonstrate the application of the principles of behavioral and social sciences as applied to family systems and their effect on patient health.
3. Employ health care within an interdisciplinary team that is safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable.