

# Writing Learning Objectives

CME activities are designed to promote changes in the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships between the physician, patients, the public and other physicians. Learning objectives for these activities should be written in terms of measurable outcomes. To assist in the development of solid learning objectives, the following action verbs and the behavioral processes they infer are categorized and used in sample objectives below.

## ***Retrieve and recall relevant knowledge from memory***

Copy	Label	Quote	Repeat
Define	List	Recall	Select
Identify	Name	Recite	State

## ***Construct meaning from the presentation of oral, written and graphic information***

Classify	Discuss	Indicate	Paraphrase	Summarize
Compare	Exemplify	Infer	Report	Translate
Describe	Explain	Interpret	Rewrite	

## ***Carry out or use a procedure by applying, executing or implementing learned knowledge to actual situations***

Assemble	Classify	Diagnose	Follow	Illustrate	Sketch
Apply	Contrast	Estimate	Forecast	Implement	Utilize
Calculate	Demonstrate	Execute	Identify	Relate	

## ***Break material into parts and determine how the parts relate to each other and to an overall structure or purpose***

Analyze	Combine	Differentiate	Find	Select	Test
Attribute	Compare	Examine	Modify	Solve	
Change	Diagram	Figure	Organize	Survey	

## ***Make judgments based on criteria and standards through checking and critiquing***

Appraise	Check	Estimate	Qualify	Support
Argue	Critique	Judge	Rate	
Assess	Defend	Predict	Recommend	

## ***Combine various elements to form a functional whole or reorganize them into new patterns or structures***

Compute	Design	Formulate	Invent	Organize	Produce
Construct	Develop	Generate	Manage	Plan	Propose
Create	Devise	Improve	Modify	Prepare	

## ***Verbs that indicate an immeasurable behavior should be avoided***

Acknowledge	Believe	Know	Understand
Appreciate	Comprehend	Realize	Value

# Sample Learning Objectives

- Address the concern of antibiotic resistance and judicious use of prophylaxis for UTI
- Apply spirometry in asthma diagnosis and management
- Apply the most current medical and surgical approaches to management of patients with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis
- Assess sleep disorders and apply current treatment methodologies
- Demonstrate the use of a visual tracking device to diagnose mild head injury
- Describe management of comorbid conditions on ECMO
- Describe prevention initiatives for patients with burn injuries to decrease rates of hospital-acquired pressure injuries
- Describe socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic barriers that negatively impact the delivery of healthcare services
- Differentiate between delirium and dementia in geriatric patients and utilize appropriate treatment strategies
- Discuss barriers to effective communication with victims of domestic violence and use strategies to overcome those barriers
- Discuss the etiology, incidence, epidemiology and pathophysiology of sleep apnea in heart failure
- Evaluate indications and contraindications for cardiac transplantation
- Explain the major risk factors for the development of Type 2 diabetes to a patient with elevated blood glucose
- Follow cardiac arrhythmias in a high stroke risk patient post angiogram
- Identify common ethical medical and legal issues that have arisen by the impact of technology on the practice of medicine
- Identify mechanisms and patterns of injury in the diagnosis of the brain-injured, pediatric patient
- Identify tools, techniques and strategies for the management of a difficult airway in a limited resources environment
- Integrate the latest treatment strategies to improve outcomes for patients with coronary artery disease
- Investigate, assess, and respond to causative factors for pulmonary hypertension
- List the different classifications of atrial fibrillation
- Recognize and evaluate pain in young children and mentally ill patients
- Recognize red flags of postpartum depression in conversations with new mothers
- Recommend evidence-based therapeutic interventions and beware of nonstandard therapies for children with autism spectrum disorders
- Respond to the growing prevalence of Type 2 diabetes in pediatric patients
- Summarize evidence-based methods to prevent burnout and promote physician well being
- Utilize effective strategies to reduce hypertension in patients with diabetes