

PA PROGRAM REQUIRED COMPETENCIES

1. Medical Knowledge
 - a. Acquire a comprehensive understanding of basic sciences and clinical medicine.
 - b. Recognize normal and abnormal health states.
 - c. Discern among acute, chronic, and emerging disease states.

2. Clinical and Technical Skills
 - a. Gather a history and perform a physical examination.
 - b. Order and interpret common diagnostic and screening tests.
 - c. Enter and discuss orders and prescriptions.
 - d. Document a clinical encounter in the patient record.
 - e. Provide an oral presentation of a clinical encounter.
 - f. Form clinical questions and retrieve evidence to advance patient care.
 - g. Give or receive a patient handover to transition care responsibility.
 - h. Obtain informed consent for tests and procedures.
 - i. Perform clinical and technical skills, including procedures needed to enter clinical practice based on then-current standards.

3. Clinical Reasoning and Problem-Solving Abilities
 - a. Recognize a patient requiring urgent or emergent care and initiate evaluation and management.
 - b. Analyze complex medical situations.
 - c. Make evidence-based clinical judgments to provide the most up-to-date patient care.
 - d. Prioritize a differential diagnosis following a clinical encounter.
 - e. Develop appropriate treatment plans.

4. Health Literacy, Communication, and Interpersonal Skills
 - a. Organize and communicate health information in a clear and accessible manner to ensure patient understanding and engagement.
 - b. Communicate effectively with patients, families, and other members of the healthcare team.
 - c. Provide effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs.

5. Interprofessional Collaborative Practice and Leadership
 - a. Collaborate as a member of an interprofessional team.
 - b. Recognize when referrals are needed and make them to the appropriate health care provider.
 - c. Gain an understanding of advocacy and leadership within the PA profession.

6. Professional Behaviors
 - a. Exhibit professionalism in all interactions.
 - b. Articulate one's role and responsibilities to patients, families, communities, and other professionals.
 - c. Display respect for the dignity and privacy of patients while maintaining confidentiality in the delivery of team-based care.
 - d. Exercise continuous life-long learning and professional development.