

# University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine

## Objectives for Graduation

Graduates of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine are life-long learners. They apply their knowledge of biological and clinical sciences, demonstrate a deep appreciation for their community, and communicate effectively in the care of their patients, particularly the peoples of Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. They practice medicine with the highest professional standards while maintaining their personal health and well-being. All medical students at JABSOM must demonstrate achievement of these objectives prior to graduation.

### I. Life-Long Learning Skills

**Graduates will be life-long learners.**

*Following PBL tutorial, patient care interactions, or in anticipation of future learning needs, students will be life-long learners by:*

- A) Listing important learning issues in the biological, clinical, populational, and behavioral domains and meeting these learning needs through self-directed study.
- B) Searching for and retrieving (from electronic databases and other resources) biomedical information, critically appraising this information, and applying it appropriately to patients and populations.
- C) Evaluating the knowledge base supporting good patient care, recognizing gaps between prevailing and best practices, and incorporating the principles of quality improvement to enhance patient care outcomes including patient safety.
- D) Evaluating their fund of knowledge, clinical skills, communication skills, and professionalism and responding proactively to meet or exceed learning needs.
- E) Showing increasing independence in their self-directed learning skills.

*As measured by achieving a grade of "credit" or "honors" in all required courses and fourth-year electives and achieving a satisfactory evaluation in all pre-clerkship PBL tutorials and the Self-Directed Learning Assessment.*

## II. The Biological Sciences

**Graduates will understand the biological sciences underlying clinical medicine.**

*Students will apply the biological sciences to the practice of medicine by:*

- A) Stating the scientific basis for disease.
- B) Explaining the molecular, cellular, and biochemical mechanisms that maintain the body's homeostasis.
- C) Describing the normal structure and function of each major organ system and the human body as an intact organism.
- D) Explaining the various causes (genetic, developmental, metabolic, toxic, infectious, immunological, neoplastic, degenerative, and traumatic) of illness and the way in which they operate on the body (disease pathogenesis).
- E) Explaining the altered structure and function (pathology and pathophysiology) of the body and its major organ systems that are seen in various diseases and conditions.
- F) Applying new findings in translational research to the clinical practice of medicine.

*As measured by achieving a grade of "credit" or "honors" in all required courses and fourth-year electives, achieving a passing score on the USMLE Step 1 Examination, and completion of the autopsy requirement.*

### III. The Care of Patients

**Graduates will be able to care for their patients with increasing responsibility under faculty supervision and respond to feedback.**

*When seeing a patient presenting with a concern or illness in the ambulatory or hospital setting, students will be able to care for that patient by:*

- A) Approaching each patient with an awareness and sensitivity to the impact the patient's age, gender, culture, spiritual beliefs, socioeconomic background, lifestyle, social support, sexuality, and healthcare beliefs may have on the development, diagnosis, and treatment of their illness.
- B) Reflecting upon and recognizing their own personal biases.
- C) Recognizing the patient's decisional capacity as it relates to informed consent for health care decisions.
- D) Applying clinical reasoning, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.
- E) Performing a complete or organ-specific history and physical exam following an appropriate exam sequence and utilizing correct technique in a manner that reflects a clear understanding of the manifestations of common maladies.
- F) Respecting issues of modesty and personal space when interviewing a patient or performing a physical exam.
- G) Ordering appropriate diagnostic tests with careful consideration of the test properties, risks and complications, discomfort to patients, cost, and patient's overall therapeutic goals.
- H) Performing routine procedural skills under appropriate supervision, with minimal discomfort to patients.
- I) Developing and implementing an appropriate therapeutic plan that takes into account efficacy, adverse effects, cost, safety, and compliance issues, in the context of the patient's overall goals, values, and cultural beliefs.
- J) Recognizing and initiating therapy for acute life-threatening conditions.
- K) Understanding the comprehensive care necessary in caring for patients with chronic conditions and disabilities.
- L) Educating patients, families, and other healthcare providers about health, illness, and the prevention of disease in a manner they can understand.
- M) Providing end-of-life care including pain management and guidance to patients and their families on end-of-life care decision-making.
- N) Incorporating principles of inter-professional patient care, especially in the areas of communication and patient safety.

*As measured by achieving a grade of "credit" or "honors" in all required courses and fourth-year electives, successful completion of the informed consent exercise, a passing score on the "History Taking" exam, the "Observed Complete Physical Exam" exercise, the chest compressions, phlebotomy, IV insertion, bag-valve mask, arrhythmia recognition test, the Senior Seminars medical emergencies manikin simulations, the fourth-year Comprehensive Clinical Skills Assessment, the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge Examination, and the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills Examination.*

#### **IV. Oral and Written Communication Skills**

**Graduates will be able to communicate effectively with patients, families, and other healthcare providers.**

*When in a classroom, clinical, or other healthcare setting, students will communicate effectively with others by:*

- A) Greeting patients warmly, eliciting relevant information, understanding the patient's perspective, responding to their feelings, educating them about their condition, and explaining further management.
- B) Utilizing rapport-building techniques, including open-ended questions, empathic listening, checking for understanding, validation, and appropriate eye contact, body language, and voice quality to attend to patients.
- C) Communicating with patients and family in a manner that conveys compassion and sensitivity to their feelings and concerns.
- D) Incorporating patient-centered and shared decision-making principles into their practice.
- E) Motivating patients to adopt new or different behaviors to promote their health.
- F) Orally presenting cases clearly and concisely.
- G) Writing legible, comprehensive progress notes, history and physical exams, and prescriptions.
- H) Providing constructive, meaningful feedback to colleagues, course directors, PBL tutors, lecturers, and other members of the educational community.

*As measured by achieving a grade of "credit" or "honors" in all required courses and fourth-year electives and achieving a passing score on the fourth-year Comprehensive Clinical Skills Assessment, the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge Examination, and the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills Examination.*

## V. Populational and Community Health

**Graduates will appreciate the epidemiology of disease and the role of the physician in public health and global health issues, particularly those important to Hawaii and the Asia-Pacific region.**

*When in the clinical or classroom setting, students will appreciate the epidemiology of disease and the role of physicians in populational and community health by:*

- A) Stating the epidemiology of common illnesses within diverse populations and the systematic approaches useful in reducing the incidence and prevalence of such illnesses.
- B) Stating the important non-biological determinants of poor health and the economic, psychological, social, and cultural factors that contribute to the development and/or continuation of illness.
- C) Explaining the physician's role in current Global Health issues that include emerging infections and pandemics, bioterrorism, and natural disasters.
- D) Stating the important public health measures that support the health of communities.
- E) Stating important legal aspects of medicine.
- F) Caring for patients who are unable to pay and advocating for access to health care for members of traditionally underserved populations.
- G) Applying common biostatistical tools to evaluate the validity of research results published in medical journals.
- H) Incorporating principles of quality improvement and systems-based practice in patient care and research.

*As measured by achieving a grade of "credit" or "honors" in all required courses and fourth-year electives and achieving a passing score on the fourth-year Comprehensive Clinical Skills Assessment, the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge Examination, and the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills Examination.*

## VI. Professionalism

**Graduates will be professional and ethical and demonstrate an enthusiasm for medicine while delivering compassionate care to their patients.**

*When practicing medicine or representing JABSOM outside the classroom or clinical setting, students will exhibit the highest standards of professional and ethical behavior by:*

- A) Stating the theories and principles that govern ethical decision-making including those related to the major dilemmas in medicine.
- B) Adhering to JABSOM policies regarding academic integrity, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and falsification and to JABSOM and UHM policies regarding student conduct.
- C) Showing respect, honesty, altruism, accountability, honor, excellence, integrity, and humility.
- D) Presenting a professional appearance and demeanor.
- E) Respecting patient confidentiality and preserving patient dignity.
- F) Obtaining informed consent while respecting patient autonomy.
- G) Recognizing potential conflicts of interest inherent in various financial and organizational arrangements in the practice of medicine.
- H) Dealing with professional mistakes openly and honestly in ways that promote patient trust and self-learning.
- I) Acknowledging personal limitations and the need for life-long learning.
- J) Completing school and professional requirements in a timely manner.
- K) Willingly teaching and supporting others.
- L) Participating positively in JABSOM learning opportunities.
- M) Demonstrating respect for diversity and maintaining a safe environment for all.
- N) Incorporating principles of interdisciplinary collaboration, especially in the areas of communication and patient safety.
- O) Demonstrating the ability to reflect and self-assess.

*As measured by achieving a grade of "credit" or "honors" in all required courses and fourth-year electives, successfully completing the disclosing errors, patient confidentiality, impaired student, informed consent simulations, and all interdisciplinary manikin and standardized patient simulations, and achieving a passing score on the fourth-year Comprehensive Clinical Skills Assessment, the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge Examination, and the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills Examination.*

## **VII. Personal Health and Well-Being**

### **Graduates will maintain personal health and well-being.**

*Students will maintain their personal health and well-being by:*

- A) Stating strategies to maintain personal physical and mental health.
- B) Stating healthy coping mechanisms to manage stress and exam anxiety.
- C) Stating strategies to maintain personal safety in both academic and clinical environments.
- D) Debriefing critical clinical incidents, such as poor outcomes and mistakes, with colleagues so they can better cope with emotional stresses of clinical practice.
- E) Identifying resources available for treating depression, substance abuse, and other forms of physician impairment.
- F) Stating the key elements of the student mistreatment policy, including the definition of mistreatment and how to report it.
- G) Recognizing the importance of balancing personal, family, and career goals.

*As measured by their creation of a personal health and well-being plan for the pre-clerkship and clinical periods of their medical education, completion of the impaired student simulation and student mistreatment sessions, the ability to role play safety and wellness practices in the clinical setting, and a reflection on well-being during their post-graduate medical education.*

## **Resources**

*Association of American Medical Colleges. The Medical School Objectives Project: Report I Learning Objectives for Medical Student Education Guidelines for Medical Schools 1998*

*Association of American Medical Colleges. The Medical School Objectives Project: Report II Contemporary Issues in Medicine: Medical Informatics and Population Health 1998*

*Association of American Medical Colleges. The Medical School Objectives Project: Report III Contemporary Issues in Medicine: Communication in Medicine 1999*

*Association of American Medical Colleges. Medical School Objectives Project: Report IV Contemporary Issues in Medicine: Basic Science and Clinical Research 2001*

*Association of American Medical Colleges. The Medical School Objectives Project: Report V Contemporary Issues in Medicine: Quality of Care 2001*

*Association of American Medical Colleges. Medical School Objectives Project: Report VI Contemporary Issues in Medicine: Genetics Education 2004*

*Association of American Medical Colleges. Medical School Objectives Project: Report VII Contemporary Issues in Medicine: Musculoskeletal Medicine Education 2005*

*The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. CanMEDS 2005 Physician Competency Framework*

*American Board of Internal Medicine. Project Professionalism 1995*

*Liaison Committee on Medical Education. Function and Structure of a Medical School*

*Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Common Program Requirements: General Competencies 2007.*