

A preliminary framework for the assessment of the clinical competencies and skills of medical students and junior doctors

Competency or clinical skill	Student			Trainer		
	N	A	C	N	A	C
Prescribing safely						
1. Knowledge of high risk medications (e.g. NSAIDs, Warfarin, Methotrexate)						
2. Controlled drugs (e.g. knowledge of storage, dose adjustment, prescription format)						
3. Monitoring for drug side-effects (e.g. myalgia with statins)						
Dealing with medical emergencies						
4. Ensuring adequate emergency treatment knowledge/confirmation of CPR knowledge & skills (in past 12 months)						
5. Awareness of emergency contacts (e.g. Ambulance, Police, Social Work)						
Specific clinical management issues						
6. Recognising & acting on 'red flag' symptoms & signs for serious illness (e.g. patient needs immediate admission or urgent outpatient referral).						
Dealing effectively with results and correspondence						
7. Need to follow-up & act on results and correspondence						
8. Knowledge of practice system for results handling						
Patient referrals						
9. Identifying the need for referral (i.e. recognition of condition requiring further investigation and/or treatment)						
10. Referral system (e.g. how and when to refer 'urgently' and 'routinely')						
11. Quality of acute referral letter (e.g. past medical history, medical status, social circumstance, clinical appropriateness)						
Effective and safe communication						
12. Knowledge of internal communication process within the practice (e.g. e-mail, message systems, practice meetings)						
13. Safe communication with patients and relatives (e.g. consultations, phone calls and letters)						

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Consulting safely						
14. How to safety-net (face-to face, during telephone consultations)						
15. Awareness of guidelines for the use of chaperones						
Ensuring confidentiality						
16. Appropriate disclosure of medical information						
Awareness of importance of record-keeping						
17. Keep accurate records						
18. Confirm patient identity						
19. Knowledge of related legal issues						
Raising awareness of personal responsibility						
20. Recognising the limits of own clinical competence						
21. How and when to seek help						
Enhancing personal safety						
22. How to access emergency alarms/panic button for personal safety						
23. Dealing with aggressive and violent patients						
Safe use of practice computerised systems						
24. Proficiency in using practice computer systems						

N=Novice: students or doctors with knowledge but no experience of the competence or skill

A=Apprentice (advanced beginner): Able to perform the task

C=Competent: Able to apply the skill or demonstrate competence in an efficient, organised manner while engaged in multiple activities

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