



School of Medicine

University of Missouri Health

Mission Statement for Medical Education

Our mission is to educate physicians to provide effective patient-centered care for the people of Missouri and beyond.

Educational Goal Statements for the M.D. Degree

Last reviewed by Curriculum Board October 23, 2013

The following educational goals are broad statements of skills, abilities and attitudes we expect of graduates from MU School of Medicine. These goals are the foundation for course specific objectives in support of the Key Characteristics.

MU SOM graduates will:

1. demonstrate integrity, respect, compassion, selflessness and a commitment to the greater good encompassed by service to patients and society. Our graduates will be aware that the profession of medicine is an ideal towards which the physician should continually strive. They will manifest these attributes in observable attitudes and behaviors towards patients, colleagues and society.
2. provide patient-centered care in the context of a physician-patient relationship; contribute to patient-centered care in the context of a healthcare team and in support of patient-centered care policies and practices of healthcare organizations.
3. demonstrate knowledge and in-depth understanding of the sciences of medicine. They will incorporate new and evolving knowledge into patient care.
4. individualize care by taking into account how a person's culture, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation and socioeconomic situation impact their health, health care beliefs and access to services. Graduates will also display insight into their own sociocultural background and how it affects the physician-patient interaction.

5. commit to the practice of evidenced-based medicine. They will demonstrate the ability to comprehensively search and critically appraise the best available evidence, interpret new data, judge the quality of evidence-based resources and use that knowledge at the point of patient-centered care.
6. perform both a focused and comprehensive history and examination. They will accurately select the pertinent points of a patient's presentation, develop a patient-centered differential diagnosis and test these hypotheses in an efficient and cost effective manner. They will accurately and efficiently document their findings using appropriate technology.
7. communicate clearly and effectively using plain language and verbal and non-verbal methods, including utilizing developing technologies, that facilitate patient understanding and improve health literacy
8. actively engage the patient and involved family members and friends in an informed, shared decision-making process, applying the best medical evidence while demonstrating respect for each patient's rights, autonomy and desires.
9. understand the behavioral, psychological and social aspects of medicine. They will be able to facilitate behavior change in addressing the challenges of health, disease, health promotion, and disease prevention.
10. function effectively within a healthcare team. They will understand and respect the roles and responsibilities of team members. They will collaborate and problem solve in the service of effective patient-centered care.
11. demonstrate the application of continuous improvement principles to improve patient care and safety. They will reflect on clinical performance in light of objective clinical and service quality outcomes. Graduates will identify and report medical errors and near misses and will engage in processes that resolve mistakes and promote patient safety. Understand the healthcare system, including issues of access, equity, cost, the regulatory environment, and the medico-legal environment. They will apply this knowledge in the delivery of patient-centered care.
12. understand the interconnectedness of people, their communities and society and how the health of one affects the health of the others. Graduates will identify and anticipate the needs and resources of communities and populations with attention to the medically underserved. They will have the skills to apply population based prevention and health improvement strategies.
13. understand the principles of clinical and translational research. They will be able to describe how these principles are important to sustained delivery of effective patient-centered care.
14. be aware of the strengths and limitations of their professional expertise. They will reflect on their professional and personal attributes, welcome feedback and seek out assistance when appropriate. Graduates will recognize and address impairment to practice medicine in themselves and others.
15. set goals in the context of lifelong learning, including learning from patients. They will gather, organize and synthesize information and develop strategies for continued self-assessment and improvement.