



SOPM Competency Domains

Domain 1: Medical Knowledge

Graduation competencies must include mastery of the necessary body of knowledge within the basic clinical and related sciences to manage patients' health. Graduates must apply current and emerging knowledge of human structure, function, development, pathology, pathophysiology, and psychosocial development, and of pharmacology and microbiology to the foundation of podiatric clinical training, residency, and practice.

1. Describe normal development, structure, and function of the body with emphasis on the lower extremity.
2. Explain the genetic, molecular, biochemical, and cellular mechanisms important to maintaining the body's homeostasis.
3. Relate the altered development, structure and function of the body and its major organ systems to various diseases and conditions.
4. Apply knowledge from pre-clinical and clinical sciences in simulated and clinical settings to patient care.
5. Use current and emerging knowledge of health and disease to identify and solve problems in patient care.

Domain 2: Patient Care

The competent graduate can provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems, as well as the promotion of good health. They are required to construct appropriate management strategies (diagnostic and therapeutic) for

patients with common healthcare problems (emergent, acute, or chronic) using all accumulated knowledge and skills. The competent graduate must be able to Provide effective, appropriate, and compassionate patient-centered care that promotes overall health to diverse populations.

1. Apply medical knowledge to distinguish differences between wellness and disease.
2. Perform and interpret appropriate, accurate, and problem-focused history and physical examinations.
3. Perform lower extremity exams required for the diagnosis and management of disorders and conditions.
4. Formulate a prioritized differential diagnosis based on examination and clinical assessments.
5. Perform and/or interpret appropriate diagnostic studies, and tests required for management and treatment.
6. Participate actively in the performance of treatment techniques using medical and surgical means.
7. Perform competently all medical and invasive procedures required for graduation.
8. Recommend appropriate referrals of patients ensuring continuity of care through transitions between providers or settings and determining patient progress.
9. Perform, order, and interpret diagnostic investigations that result in accurate diagnosis/treatment.
10. Recognize evidence of mental or physical impairment of oneself or other to protect patients from harm.
11. Develop and implement patient specific management plans and prevention strategies.
12. Demonstrate awareness of issues related to culture, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, and mental and physical disabilities.
13. Engage patients and their families in shared decision-making through counseling and education.

14. Use information technology to access online medical information, manage information and assimilate evidence from scientific studies to patient care.
15. Apply the principles of epidemiology and evidence-based medicine.
16. Counsel and educate patients, their families, and caregivers.

Domain 3: Patient Care Lower Extremity

The competent graduate must be able to provide effective, appropriate, and compassionate patient-centered care with emphasis on the lower extremity that promotes overall health to diverse populations.

1. Apply medical knowledge to distinguish differences between wellness and disease.
2. Perform and interpret appropriate, accurate, and problem-focused history and physical examinations in the management of lower extremity conditions.
3. Perform lower extremity exams required for the diagnosis and management of disorders and conditions.
4. Formulate a prioritized differential diagnosis for conditions of the lower extremity based on examination and clinical assessments.
5. Perform and/or interpret appropriate diagnostic studies, and tests required for management and treatment of conditions in the lower extremity.
6. Recommend appropriate referrals of patients ensuring continuity of care through transitions between providers or settings and determining patient progress.
7. Develop and implement patient specific management plans and prevention strategies for conditions of the lower extremity.
8. Demonstrate awareness of issues related to culture, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, and mental and physical disabilities.
9. Engage patients and their families in shared decision-making through counseling and education.

10. Use information technology to access online medical information, manage information and assimilate evidence from scientific studies to patient care.
11. Apply the principles of epidemiology and evidence-based medicine in the management of conditions of the lower extremity.

Domain 4: Research and Scholarly Activity

The competent graduate must be able to study, reflect, and evaluate patient care practices. In addition, they must be able to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence and understand their learning needs. The competent graduate must apply concepts of research to further one's understanding of contemporary podiatric medicine and its application to appropriate care for patients. They must recognize that the need to learn is continuous. The competent graduate:

1. Sets clear learning goals and continuously integrates new knowledge to improve medical care
2. Assesses their strengths and weaknesses to improve performance.
3. Identifies effective ways to address limitations and enhance expertise.
4. Critically appraises the information and relates it to their patient's health problems.
5. Identify responsible practices and ethical behaviors used in research.
6. Demonstrate the acquisition and interpretation of medical literature.
7. Apply knowledge to the principles of research methodology to evaluate the integrity of the research and its relevancy for clinical decision making.
8. Investigate opportunities that enhance life-long learning and contribute to the body of knowledge in podiatric research and scholarship.

Domain 5: Interpersonal and Interprofessional Communication

The competent graduate demonstrates communication and interpersonal skills that results in relevant information exchange and decision-making with patients, their families, and members of the healthcare team. The graduate:

1. Effectively communicate, in oral, digital, and written formats.
2. Communicate effectively (including non-verbal cues) with patients, families, and other healthcare professionals, especially when special barriers to communication exist.
3. Interact appropriately with peers, faculty, staff, and healthcare professionals in academic, research and healthcare settings.

Domain 6: Professionalism

The competent graduate approaches medicine with integrity and respect for human dignity. The graduate exhibit the highest standards of competence, ethics, integrity, and accountability to patients and place the patient's interest above oneself. They must demonstrate awareness of and commitment to the principles and responsibilities of medical professionalism. The competent graduate:

1. Apply theories and principles that govern ethical decision-making to the practice of medicine and research.
2. Recognize potential conflicts of interest inherent in various financial and organizational arrangements for the practice of medicine, in medical education and research.
3. Practice the standards that ensure patient privacy and confidentiality.
4. Demonstrate dependability, commitment, and reliability in interactions with patients and their families and other health professionals.
5. Recognize, and address in a constructive manner, unprofessional behaviors in oneself and others with whom one interacts.
6. Demonstrate personal behaviors that promote patient safety.
7. Identify personal deficiencies in knowledge and skills and address them by implementing methods for improvement.
8. Employ strategies for seeking and incorporating feedback from patients, peers, and other health professionals to improve personal and patient outcomes.

9. Is aware of the unique doctor-patient relationship. Demonstrates a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care confidentiality of patient information and informed consent.
10. Recognizes that the need to learn is continuous.
11. Balances personal and professional commitments to ensure that patient's medical needs are always addressed and respected.

Domain 7: Interprofessional Collaborative Practice

The competent graduate will demonstrate communication and interpersonal skills that result in relevant information exchange and decision-making with patients, their families, and members of the healthcare team.

1. Effectively communicate, in oral, digital, and written formats.
2. Communicate effectively (including non-verbal cues) with patients, families, and other healthcare professionals, especially when special barriers to communication exist.
3. Interact appropriately with peers, faculty, staff, and healthcare professionals in academic, research and healthcare settings.
4. Exhibit behavior that demonstrates the capacity to establish a doctor/patient relationship.

Domain 8: Social Determinants of Health/Awareness, Pain addiction

The competent graduate demonstrates an understanding of common societal problems including issues of addiction or abuse and their impact on patients and their families. The graduate will

1. Identify and consider health care disparities and the social determinants of health.
2. Use a socio-psycho-biological model to develop individualized prevention strategies for persons with pain and/or opioid use disorder.
3. Employ an integrated, team-based approach to the patient.

4. Engage family and social support in the care to the patient.
5. Demonstrates an awareness and responsiveness to larger context and systems of health care such as Identifying and treating community health care concerns specific to a bi-national region the Rio Grande Valley and Mexico.
6. Practice cost-effective health care that does not compromise quality of care.
7. Utilize and integrate the services of multidisciplinary health care providers, practicing cost-effective health care that does not compromise quality,
8. Work collaboratively with other health professionals to optimize the quality of care in underserved areas.
9. Apply principles of population health, to design and implement treatment plans for the underserved and uninsured populations.