The Royal Australasian College of Physicians

BASIC TRAINING PROGRAM
CURRICULUM

ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH:
Professional Qualities Curriculum
Acknowledgements
A number of Fellows, trainees and College staff have contributed extensively of their time and professional expertise in the design and development of this curriculum document.

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- Mary-Ann Ryall
- Phillipa Poole
- Susan Moloney
- Ian Scott
- Ann Gillett
- Stephen Judd
- Andrew Bowers
- Karina Kennedy.

The process was managed by the College’s Curriculum Development Unit, who designed the document, drafted content material, organised and facilitated writing workshops and developed resource materials.

Copyright

Please note: No Domains, Themes or Learning Objectives have been updated for this edition; design changes ONLY.

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RACP FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PATHWAYS AND THE CONTINUUM OF LEARNING

Foundation medical studies and workplace experience

- Initial Medical Qualification

One or more initial post-graduate years in the workplace

- Basic Training in Adult Medicine
- Basic Training in Paediatrics & Child Health

RACP PREP Training

- Basic Training Programs
- Advanced Training Programs
- Qualification

Advanced Training Programs

- Division Training Programs
  - Cardiology
  - Clinical Genetics
  - Clinical Haematology
  - Clinical Immunology & Allergy
  - Clinical Pharmacology
  - Community Child Health
  - Dermatology (NZ only)
  - Endocrinology
  - Gastroenterology
  - General & Acute Care Medicine
  - General Paediatrics
  - Geriatric Medicine
  - Infectious Diseases
  - Medical Oncology
  - Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine
  - Nephrology
  - Neurology
  - Nuclear Medicine
  - Palliative Medicine
  - Respiratory Medicine
  - Rheumatology
  - Sleep Medicine

- Joint Training Programs
  - RACP & The Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM)
  - Paediatric Rehabilitation Medicine
  - RACP & The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA)
  - Endocrinology & Chemical Pathology
  - Haematology
  - Immunology & Allergy
  - Infectious Diseases & Microbiology
  - RACP & The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM)
  - Paediatric Emergency Medicine

- Chapter Training Programs
  - Addiction Medicine
  - Palliative Medicine
  - Sexual Health Medicine

- Faculty Training Programs
  - Rehabilitation Medicine
  - Public Health Medicine

FRACP

FRACP & FAFRM

FRACP & FRCPA

FRACP &/OR FACEM

FAChAM

FAChPM

FACSHM

FAFRM

FAFOEM

FAFPHM

NB1: This diagram only depicts training programs that lead to Fellowship. Please see the RACP website for additional RACP training programs.

1 Trainees who have entered Advanced Training in Palliative Medicine via a RACP Basic Training Program will be awarded FRACP upon completion and may subsequently be awarded FACHPM. Trainees who have NOT entered Advanced Training in Palliative Medicine via a RACP Basic Training Program will only be awarded FACHPM upon completion.

2 The Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Joint Training Program with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) is currently under review by the RACP and RANZCP and closed to new entrants at present.

3 Alternative entry requirements exist for these training programs; please see the corresponding PREP Program Requirements Handbook for further information.

NB1: This diagram only depicts training programs that lead to Fellowship. Please see the RACP website for additional RACP training programs.

NB2: For further information on any of the above listed training programs, please see the corresponding PREP Program Requirements Handbook.
THE CONTEXT OF BASIC TRAINING

The medical profession is currently operating within a context of rapidly increasing change in terms of the various professional, societal, economic, political and technological aspects which impact upon its practice and the society within which it operates. Trainees will need to be cognisant of these various situations and incorporate the relevant aspects into the context of their overall training program.

Some of these key impacts include:
• changing views of the profession towards training and assessment
• increased community expectations of health care providers
• exponential growth in the scope and depth of medical knowledge
• rapid introduction of new medical technology and procedures
• certification and continuing education
• increased litigation
• increased concern regarding the cost of health care
• worldwide shortage of doctors
• shorter working hours, and changing industrial landscape
• mismatches between health care needs and health care delivery here and internationally.

FOCUS OF BASIC TRAINING IN ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

This training program will focus on developing core skills and knowledge, introducing each of the disciplines and providing a foundation for consolidation and further study within Advanced Training.

• The aim of the Basic Training program is to produce trainees capable of entering any of the specialty training programs.
• Such trainees are differentiated from others by:
  » high level of medical basic science knowledge
  » generic skills development.
• They will have:
  » the ability to diagnose and manage all common acute medical presentations and refer as appropriate
  » skills, including communication and working as a team, in the management of complex and chronic medical conditions
  » a good ‘breadth of competence’ and some ‘depth of competence’ across the medical specialties.

LINK TO PROFESSIONAL QUALITIES CURRICULUM

The Professional Qualities Curriculum outlines the range of concepts and specific learning objectives required and utilised by all physicians, regardless of their specialty or area of expertise.

Each of these concepts and objectives will be taught, learnt and assessed within the context of everyday clinical practice. It is important, therefore, that they be aligned with, and fully integrated into, the learning objectives within this curriculum.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES AT THE COMPLETION OF TRAINING

At the completion of Basic Training, it is expected that trainees will have:

• built on the knowledge and skills acquired during medical school and the pre-vocational post-graduate years
• gained experience in, and had the opportunity to develop and demonstrate competency in, a comprehensive range of ‘core’ generic and discipline-specific knowledge, clinical skills and attitudes
• had a broad-based exposure to, and clinical experience within, each of the discipline areas that will be further developed and focussed during the subsequent Advanced Training program
• acquired a ‘breadth of competence’ that will be further developed into a ‘depth of competence’ within their Advanced Training program
• rotated through a series of training opportunities
• gained a background knowledge and understanding of the full range of discipline areas which will facilitate cross referral/multi-specialty teamwork etc
• demonstrated the ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and their families, colleagues and other allied health professionals
• gained an initial understanding of, and be able to acknowledge the importance of, the various socio-economic factors that contribute to illness and vulnerability
• acquired an awareness of, and sensitivity to, the special needs of patients from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
• acquired the skills to be able to work within, and fully utilise, multidisciplinary team-based approaches to the assessment, management and care of their patients
• implemented their future career-planning and decision making processes based on a more informed level of knowledge and understanding.
COMMON ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOURS

The range of desirable personal and professional behavioural attitudes required of, and commonly utilised by, all consultant physicians and paediatricians in the course of their daily clinical practice and in their relationship with others are listed below. These will facilitate appropriate patient care and management associated with professional practice when working with patients, their families, professional colleagues, and allied medical and administrative personnel. Depending upon the clinical context, each of these may be utilised individually or, more commonly, in combination with others.

PERSONAL ATTITUDES

- fostering of a patient-centred approach to health care
- maintenance of a balanced and broad perspective on health care delivery
- preparedness to learn and adopt new and validated approaches to diagnosis and management, despite logistical difficulties, and to change work practices when appropriate
- willingness to reflect on, and learn from, mistakes
- preparedness to change management plans
- tolerance of uncertainty
- ability to cope with unexpected disappointments
- equanimity, resilience and calmness in the face of challenging clinical demands
- desire to contribute to improvements in the health system
- desire to foster clinical practice, research and teaching in general internal medicine
- preparedness to acknowledge doubt and uncertainty in clinical practice.

ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOURS WITH PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

- use of a positive, compassionate, caring and empathic attitude towards patients and their family/carers
- involvement of patients as equals in identification of treatment priorities and in the development of the care plan
- ensuring patient confidentiality, particularly where others are involved in the development of a care plan
- imparting of ‘bad news’ in a compassionate and positive manner
- use of a clinical approach that models and reinforces preventive and prophylactic approaches to health care
- encouragement of patient mastery, including participation in self-awareness and rehabilitation programs
- use of a non-judgemental approach to the assessment of all determinants of illness
- willingness to accede to requests for a second opinion
- provision of constructive and evidence-based advice on complementary and alternative management approaches, when patients wish this.

ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOURS WITH COLLEAGUES

- preparedness to collaborate with primary carers, other referrers and sub-specialists in the care of patients by providing consultative advice, sharing of care, or accepting ongoing care in the best interests of the patient
- willingness to work in a multidisciplinary team
- use of an independent, assertive, inquiring but nonetheless professionally courteous manner in interactions with subspecialty colleagues
- willingness to share knowledge and skills with colleagues
- fostering of a peer network and collaborative relationships in the health care system
- provision of reassurance and support to colleagues
- zero tolerance in the workplace of sexual harassment and discrimination
- respect for, and acknowledgement of, professional contributions of all others in the workplace, including office staff and employees.
ASSESSMENT

Below is an overview of the assessment tools used during Basic Training. A variety of tools will be used, with the emphasis on provision of constructive feedback to trainees, to aid their learning. The assessment tools will require the trainee to provide good patient care and act as quality assurance towards this goal. Thus, the better a person performs on the job, the better they will perform within the formal assessment program.

The new assessment system links more closely with service provision, reducing the need to spend time away from the job studying books and examination technique. Rather, the centralised examinations are linked with the curriculum and are complemented with on-the-job assessment.

OUTLINE OF STRATEGIES

A similar range of strategies will be employed for Basic Training and Advanced Training. This section deals with those tools that will be used during Basic Training.

Formative mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise (mini-CEX)
Trainees will be required to complete a number of formative mini-CEX activities throughout Basic Training, covering history taking, clinical examination, and health promotion aspects of the curriculum. These will be carried out in the trainee’s usual workplace.

Multi-Source Feedback (MSF)
Also known as 360° feedback, the MSF is designed to assess areas of the Professional Qualities Curriculum, particularly around communication, management, and, to some degree, cultural competency.

APLS/ALS course
Is compulsory for all trainees, and should ideally be completed during Basic Training.

Centralised Written Examination
A multiple-choice examination, blueprinted to the curriculum.

Centralised Clinical Examination
Consists of two long cases and four short cases.

HOW THEY ARE TO BE USED

Progression to Advanced Training will depend on completion of the requirements for Basic Training as specified in the Basic Training Portal as well as:

- A summative Written Examination
- Four summative short cases and two summative long cases, which make up the Clinical Examination.

NOTE: Trainees should refer to the RACP Basic Training Portal (www.racp.edu.au/btp) for the most up-to-date assessment requirements.

RELEVANT LITERATURE


Each of the curriculum documents has been developed using a common format, thereby ensuring a degree of consistency and approach across the spectrum of training.

**Domains**

The Domains are the broad fields which group common or related areas of learning.

**Themes**

The Themes identify and link more specific aspects of learning into logical or related groups.

**Learning Objectives**

The Learning Objectives outline the specific requirements of learning. They provide a focus for identifying and detailing the required knowledge, skills and attitudes. They also provide a context for specifying assessment standards and criteria as well as providing a context for identifying a range of teaching and learning strategies.

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### Domain 1: Clinical Process

**THEME 1.1 – CLINICAL SKILLS**

**Learning objectives**

- 1.1.1 Elicit the history and obtain other relevant data
- 1.1.2 Conduct an appropriate physical examination
- 1.1.3 Synthesise findings from history and physical examination to develop a differential diagnosis and management plan
- 1.1.4 Plan and arrange investigations appropriately

**THEME 1.2 – PATIENT CARE AND THERAPEUTICS**

**Learning objectives**

- 1.2.1 Manage general care in the unwell patient
- 1.2.2 Prescribe appropriate and safe pharmacotherapy
- 1.2.3 Incorporate health and wellness promotion in clinical practice
- 1.2.4 Manage patients with surgical problems
- 1.2.5 Facilitate ongoing care planning

**THEME 1.3 – PROCEDURAL SKILLS**

**Learning objectives**

- 1.3.1 Prepare patient for procedure
- 1.3.2 Competently perform procedures relevant to Adult Medicine
- 1.3.3 Provide care following procedure

*Note: Refer also to Appendix 1 for a list of assumed Procedural Skills relevant to General Medicine*
Domain 2: Medical Expertise

THEME 2.1 – MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE MEDICAL PROBLEMS
Learning objectives
2.1.1 Recognise and manage the critically ill patient
2.1.2 Manage specific acute medical problems
2.1.3 Communicate with patients and their families/carers in an emergency situation

THEME 2.2 – MANAGE PATIENTS WITH UNDIFFERENTIATED PRESENTATIONS
Learning objectives
2.2.1 Manage patients with undifferentiated presentations

THEME 2.3 – MANAGE PATIENTS WITH DISORDERS OF ORGAN SYSTEMS
Learning objectives
2.3.1 Manage patients with disorders of the cardiovascular system
2.3.2 Manage patients with endocrine and metabolic disorders
2.3.3 Manage patients with disorders of the gastrointestinal system
2.3.4 Manage patients with non-malignant disorders of the haematological system.
2.3.5 Manage patients with disorders of the immune system
2.3.6 Manage patients with mental health disorders
2.3.7 Manage patients with disorders of the musculoskeletal system
2.3.8 Manage patients with disorders of the neurological system
2.3.9 Manage patients with disorders of the renal and genitourinary systems
2.3.10 Manage patients with disorders of the respiratory and sleep system
2.3.11 Manage patients with skin disorders

THEME 2.4 – MANAGE PATIENTS WITH DEFINED DISEASE PROCESSES
Learning objectives
2.4.1 Manage patients with neoplastic diseases
2.4.2 Manage patients with genetic disorders
2.4.3 Manage patients with infectious diseases

THEME 2.5 – MEDICINE THROUGHOUT THE LIFESPAN/GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT
Learning objectives
2.5.1 Manage common presentations in adolescents
2.5.2 Manage common presentations in pregnancy
2.5.3 Manage common problems associated with the menopause
2.5.4 Manage problems in the older patient
2.5.5 Manage patients at the end of life
The following tables indicate the range of underpinning knowledge and skills associated with each of the specific learning objectives.

### Domain 1: Clinical Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>-</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tan</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Prepare patient for procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Common and important conditions – essential knowledge/skills must be known in depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Conditions – important knowledge/skills must have a sound understanding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Domain 1: Clinical Process

<table>
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<th>THEME 1.1: Clinical skills</th>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.1.1:</strong> Elicit the history and obtain other relevant data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LINKS:</strong> PQC – communication; resource management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### KNOWLEDGE

- Structured approach to patient history, including systems review.
- Different approaches to history taking as needed in various clinical settings such as acute inpatient, emergency, ambulatory care and telephone/videoconference consultation settings (Link to 2.1.1).
- Other potential sources of data (e.g. personal health records, medical records, general practitioner, family, carers, pharmacy records).

#### SKILLS

- Establishes a rapport and professional relationship with patients of all ages, their carers and relatives.
- Obtains a focussed, efficient and accurate history.
- Gives appropriate emphasis to functional and social history.
- Uses a range of strategies to corroborate information given by patient.
- Evaluates critically the history in light of the degree of functional impairment, physical findings, and other data.
- Revisits the history when the clinical situation is not clear.
- Gathers accurate data in complex situations (e.g. non-English speakers, confused patient etc).
- Persists in seeking information to assist in clinical decision making.
## Domain 1: Clinical Process

### THEME 1.1: Clinical skills

### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM:

**ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE**

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.1.2: Conduct an appropriate physical examination

### LINKS: PQC – obtaining consent, communication skills, cultural competency, ethics, clinical decision making

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Structured, systematic approach to examination.</td>
<td>Performs a thorough, accurate complete physical examination of new patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detailed system examinations.</td>
<td>Performs a focussed clinical examination in selected settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brief physical examination techniques (e.g. for neurological intactness, locomotor).</td>
<td>Tailors physical examination according to the patient’s history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical signs and patterns.</td>
<td>Interprets physical signs accurately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence base for physical signs (reliability, validity, sensitivity, specificity, areas of uncertainty).</td>
<td>Integrates data obtained by other health care workers into the physical examination findings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functional/screening tests – mini mental state examination, GCS, depression score, 6-minute walk, timed up and go test.</td>
<td>Uses specific tools when indicated (e.g. functional/screening tests).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Considers patient dignity and the need for a chaperone for some or all of the examination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Demonstrates sensitivity to patients who are in pain, embarrassed, or who are vulnerable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clearly documents examination findings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Domain 1: Clinical Process

### THEME 1.1: Clinical skills

| BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE |

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.1.3: Synthesise findings from history and physical examination to develop a differential diagnosis and management plan

### LINKS: Clinical decision making (PQC); organ systems; undifferentiated presentations (for differential diagnoses, provisional diagnoses); communication regarding illness severity; presenting a patient on a ward round; discharge planning (PQC); patient care and therapeutics; identifying learning needs (PQC – teaching and learning)

### KNOWLEDGE

- Refer to knowledge as listed in objectives 1.1.1 and 1.1.2.

### SKILLS

- Interprets and integrates the history and physical examination.
- Formulates a complete and reasoned problem list with differential diagnoses and a management plan.
- Prioritises the problem list, particularly in patients with multiple medical problems.
- Prioritises urgency of individual investigations and treatments.
- Communicates with the patient, their family and carers to develop a management plan.
- Adapts approach to management of each disorder to take account of patient factors and comorbidities.
- Records history, examination findings, synthesis, and plan for investigations and management accurately and concisely.
- Justifies the diagnosis based on clinical information.
- Modifies working diagnosis based on new information or response to therapy.
- Provides instructions regarding frequency of observations, and clear instructions on parameters for action.
## Domain 1: Clinical Process

**THEME 1.1: Clinical skills**

### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM:

**ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE**

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.1.4: Plan and arrange investigations appropriately

### LINKS: PQC – diagnostic reasoning
Medical expertise systems based

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical indications and contra-indications of investigations.</td>
<td>Rationally and efficiently plans and arranges investigations based on findings from history and physical examination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative cost of investigations.</td>
<td>Adapts approach to investigations taking into account patient factors and comorbidities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risks of performing investigations.</td>
<td>Weights the costs and benefits of investigations in each clinical situation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of false negatives and false positives on patient care.</td>
<td>Chooses the most cost-effective investigative path.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative predictive value, likelihood ratio of investigations.</td>
<td>Applies diagnostic reasoning to minimise the number of investigations used and minimise harm from false positives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recognises situations where it is appropriate to not investigate at all.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avoids unnecessary repetition of investigations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Checks results of investigations in a timely manner and acts on results appropriately.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Modifies working diagnosis and treatment plan in response to investigation results.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Domain 1: Clinical Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME 1.2: Patient care and therapeutics</th>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.2.1: Manage general care in the unwell patient |

| LINKS: (PQC) self-management, professional practice (diligence in reviewing patients, checking results before leaving etc); Mental health link for management of depression |

## Basic Knowledge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management of fluid and electrolyte balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physiology of body fluids.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluid and electrolyte requirements in well and unwell patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of fluid/electrolyte replacement and maintenance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content of commonly available replacement fluids.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Basic Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management of fluid and electrolyte balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performs accurate assessment of fluid status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requests appropriate investigations to aid in establishing fluid and electrolyte status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifies and prescribes appropriate replacement or maintenance fluids with respect to patient’s current fluid/electrolyte status, age and comorbidities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriately monitors ongoing fluid and electrolyte status and responds to changes in status.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management of glycemic control in acute illness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Risk factors for poor glycemic control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence base for tight glycemic control.</td>
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</table>

## Basic Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management of glycemic control in acute illness</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reviews glycemic control and manages fluctuations related to acute illness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commences intensive control regimens when indicated and monitors use.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of oxygen therapy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indications for use of oxygen therapy and positive pressure ventilation in both acute and chronic setting (link to respiratory and emergency).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of delivery of oxygen and ventilation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverse effects of oxygen therapy.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Basic Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of oxygen therapy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uses pulse oximetry and blood gases appropriately to determine need for and monitoring of therapy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selects appropriate method of delivery and parameters, and monitors for effectiveness/complications of therapy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of blood products</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Components of commonly available blood products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications, contra-indications and adverse effects of the use of blood products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consent issues for the use of blood products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local guidelines for ensuring safe use of blood products.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Basic Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of blood products</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uses products within local guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises adverse effects of transfusion and manages appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal nutritional requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of disease on nutrition status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of nutritional status on clinical outcomes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available forms of nutritional supplementation, together with potential complications and cost of each.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pressure sore prevention and management</th>
<th>Identities patients at increased risk, ensures adequate preventive measures are in place and monitors for development of pressure areas in immobile patients.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Factors contributing to increased risk of pressure sores.</td>
<td>Manages established pressure sores including identification of need for surgical referral.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategies for prevention.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of management of established pressure sores – wound management, antimicrobial therapy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevention of thromboembolism</th>
<th>Risk-stratifies patients and prescribes appropriate pharmacological and non-pharmacological measures to reduce risk.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Risk factors for thromboembolism.</td>
<td>Monitors for development of thromboembolism and complications of therapy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for thromboprophylaxis (link to anticoagulation).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevention of infection</th>
<th>Complies with isolation procedures.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universal precautions.</td>
<td>Complies with universal precautions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital practices to reduce risk.</td>
<td>Complies with hand washing guidelines and other guidelines to limit nosocomial infection (Link 2.4.3).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolation procedures.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand washing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</td>
<td>SKILLS (Cont.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pain Management</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathophysiology of pain (links to palliative care).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement of pain.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-pharmacological approaches to management of pain.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes of commonly available analgesics with respect to mode of action, pharmacokinetics, potency and efficacy in various pain syndromes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common adverse effects and drug interactions for drug class.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of acute and chronic pain management.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of adjuvant therapy in pain management.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takes a relevant pain history.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifies source (or potential sources) of pain.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uses common pain-scoring tools.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilises non-drug approaches to pain management.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribes appropriate analgesia with reference to cause, severity, comorbidities and comedication.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitors efficacy of treatment and adjusts regimen appropriately.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribes adjuvant therapy where appropriate.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refers to pain team when appropriate.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Psychosocial care</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial and cultural factors impacting on illness behaviour.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk factors for depression in medical inpatients (Link – Mental health disorders 2.3.6).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifies psychosocial factors impacting on presentation and outcomes in individual patients.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensures appropriate strategies in place to assist in managing social and cultural issues.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advises regarding appropriate environment and staffing levels if required.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOWLEDGE</td>
<td>SKILLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science</strong></td>
<td>Applies basic science principles in prescribing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanism of drugs at the receptor and intracellular level.</td>
<td>Prescribes appropriately with reference to specific patient factors including organ dysfunction, allergies and adverse effects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion of drugs.</td>
<td>Calculates loading doses and maintenance doses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of ageing, pregnancy and lactation on pharmacokinetics.</td>
<td>Calculates GFR, body surface area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance of genetic alterations in drug metabolism.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacological basis of drug interactions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of organ dysfunction on pharmacokinetics and dose modification.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principles of prescribing</strong></td>
<td>Takes a complete drug history including history of use of complementary therapies and over-the-counter medicines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient factors impacting on prescribing – allergy, age, pregnancy.</td>
<td>Consults pharmacist/MIMS/similar databases to obtain prescribing information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate dose adjustments in disease, ageing, pregnancy.</td>
<td>Uses locally appropriate guidelines for prescribing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Categories of drug safety in pregnancy and impact on prescribing.</td>
<td>Writes a clear and unambiguous prescription.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of dose titration.</td>
<td>Provides accurate medication list on discharge and clinic letters, along with a plan for evaluating drug effect/dose adjustment/monitoring for adverse effects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation regarding prescribing and controlled and restricted drugs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adverse drug reactions and interactions</strong></td>
<td>Identifies presence of, or potential for, adverse drug reaction and drug interactions and treats appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common and life-threatening drug interactions and common presentations of drug-induced disease, adverse drug reactions.</td>
<td>Monitors for development of common adverse drug reactions, including selection of appropriate laboratory investigations (e.g. monitoring of renal or hepatic function).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common interactions between prescription and non-prescription and complementary therapies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapeutic drug monitoring</strong></td>
<td>Monitors drug levels and effects when appropriate and responds accordingly to results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for monitoring plasma concentrations or pharmacological effects of specific drugs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</td>
<td>SKILLS (Cont.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Quality use of medicines**  
( Link to PQC quality and safety)  
Factors affecting adherence.  
Factors increasing risk of medication error.  
Techniques for enhancing medication safety.  
Factors predisposing to polypharmacy (therapeutic cascade) and reasons for over prescribing.  
Delivery techniques for specific medicines. | Practices regular medication review with appropriate adjustment of regimen and avoidance of polypharmacy.  
Ceases medications where proven ineffective or no longer indicated.  
Engages patient in decision making, explaining drug therapy and monitoring and following up verbal with written information where appropriate.  
Assesses patient uses of delivery devices.  
Uses a range of strategies to enhance patient adherence. |
| **Analgesics (see 1.2.1)** | |
| **Anticoagulant therapy**  
Actions and indications of anticoagulants, both prophylactic and therapeutic.  
Drug interactions, adverse effects, pharmacokinetics, monitoring of anticoagulation. | Initiates anticoagulation with appropriate agent at appropriate dose taking patient factors into consideration (age, comorbid conditions).  
Adjusts therapy to achieve target ranges and monitors therapy appropriately.  
Manages over-anticoagulation |
| **Corticosteroid therapy**  
Actions and indications of corticosteroids; relative potencies; monitoring, prevention of adverse effects. | Except where definitely indicated, uses steroids judiciously.  
Recognises when steroids are not appropriate.  
Escalates dose on sick days.  
Manages dose reduction.  
Minimises and manages adverse effects if steroid use unavoidable. |
| **Antimicrobial therapy**  
Mode of action, antimicrobial spectrum, adverse effects, interactions, pharmacokinetics of common classes of antimicrobials.  
Antimicrobial resistance, and strategies for prevention. | Initiates empiric antimicrobial therapy with appropriate agent at appropriate dose taking patient factors into consideration (age, comorbid conditions). |
| **Psychotropic medication**  
Mode of action, adverse effects, interactions, pharmacokinetics of antipsychotics, benzodiazepines, antidepressants.  
Links to addiction (Mental health 2.3.6). | Uses these medications judiciously, carefully monitoring for side effects.  
Uses non-pharmacological approaches initially, where possible.  
Checks interactions to avoid the serotonergic syndrome (Link to toxicology, 2.1.2). |
### Domain 1: Clinical Process

#### THEME 1.2: Patient care and therapeutics

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.2.3:** Incorporate health and wellness promotion in clinical practice

**LINKS:** PQC – quality and safety, population health, organ systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Healthy lifestyle</strong>&lt;br&gt;Principles of healthy diet across all age ranges including adolescence, pregnancy, lactation and old age.&lt;br&gt;Causes of obesity in adolescence and adults and impact on health.&lt;br&gt;Strategies to attain a healthy weight.&lt;br&gt;Principles of physical activity in disease prevention, maintenance of healthy weight in all age groups, and prevention of frailty in old age.&lt;br&gt;Techniques of proven value in smoking cessation and health benefits of smoking cessation.&lt;br&gt;Accepted healthy alcohol intake in both sexes and all age groups including pregnant women.&lt;br&gt;Importance of preventive strategies for psychosocial wellbeing.&lt;br&gt;Safe sexual practices.&lt;br&gt;Cycle of readiness for change.</td>
<td>Assesses risk factors during clinical encounters – drug, alcohol, sexual, smoking history.&lt;br&gt;Provides specific advice regarding modification of risk factors.&lt;br&gt;Communicates importance of lifestyle measures to patients and refers appropriately for assistance.&lt;br&gt;Identifies reasons for obesity in an individual and develops strategies to manage weight.&lt;br&gt;Uses available written literature, diet and exercise prescriptions to assist in patient education and compliance.&lt;br&gt;Reinforces principles and monitors compliance at subsequent visits.&lt;br&gt;Uses brief interventions for hazardous drinkers and smokers at every opportunity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Screening**<br>Current screening guidelines for common diseases. | Promotes patient participation in screening programmes.<br>Advises patients on relevant benefits and potential harms of screening. |

| **Immunisation**<br>Current schedule and indications for immunisation in adults. | Prescribes appropriate preventive therapy including immunisation according to established guidelines.<br>Advises patients on relevant benefits and harms of immunisation. |
### KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)

**Self-management**
- Techniques for encouraging self-management of health and chronic disease.
- Best practice self-monitoring in established chronic disease (e.g. diabetes, hypertension, respiratory disease).

### SKILLS (Cont.)
- Educates and reinforces patient skills in monitoring and self-management.
- Develops management/action plan in concert with patient and health care team.

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### Domain 1: Clinical Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME 1.2: Patient care and therapeutics</th>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.2.4</strong>: Manage patients with surgical problems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LINKS</strong>: General care in the unwell patient</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preoperative assessment of cardiovascular and respiratory risk.</td>
<td>Recognises a surgical condition, provides initial resuscitation and baseline investigations and refers appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proven strategies for minimising peri-operative risk (e.g. DVT prophylaxis, beta blockers, smoking cessation).</td>
<td>Identifies high-risk peri-operative patients, and develops a management plan that minimises risk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of delirium in the peri-operative period.</td>
<td>Investigates and manages patients with common peri-operative problems – sepsis, delirium, thromboembolism, glycemic management, fluid balance, atrial fibrillation, unresolved pain (Link to 1.2.1).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for endocarditis prophylaxis.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Domain 1: Clinical Process

#### THEME 1.2: Patient care and therapeutics

**BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.2.5: Facilitate ongoing care planning**

**LINKS:** History, functional history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Facilitate functional rehabilitation** | Works in a multidisciplinary team to facilitate goal setting and formulate care plans.  
General principles of rehabilitation for neurological disease including stroke, musculoskeletal disease, cardiopulmonary disease and functional restoration in the elderly.  
Factors affecting rehabilitative potential.  
Strategies for managing pain, spasticity, incontinence.  
Roles of individual members of rehabilitative team. | Promotes early return of usual functioning, e.g.  
- removal of cannulae, IDC, NG tubes  
- early mobilisation  
- early involvement of MDT  
- stopping infusions, nebulisers and unnecessary therapy  
- estimation of date of discharge.  
Refers appropriately to rehabilitation service. |
| **Facilitate ongoing care** | Writes concise, accurate, relevant discharge summaries.  
Local community resources, educational support groups, systems within the hospital. | Writes concise, accurate, relevant outpatient and referral letters.  
Organises and plans post-discharge care and follow up.  
Facilitates acquisition of medical aids and devices (e.g. home oxygen, wheelchairs, mobility devices etc). |
| **Management of the patient with a complex, multisystem disorder** | Provides specific instructions regarding disease monitoring.  
Evidence based coordination of care and disease monitoring.  
Psychological impact of chronic condition. | Simplifies ongoing care where possible.  
Refers appropriately to other subspecialty, allied health and community based services.  
Provides holistic overview of patient progress. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain 1: Clinical Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THEME 1.3:</strong> Procedural skills (refer also to Appendix 1 for a list of assumed Procedural Skills relevant to General Medicine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.3.1:</strong> Prepares patient for procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LINKS:</strong> PQC – informed consent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>KNOWLEDGE</strong></th>
<th><strong>SKILLS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indications, contra-indications and potential complications related to procedure.</td>
<td>Explains procedure to patient and obtains informed consent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of informed consent and documentation of consent.</td>
<td>Documents discussion and informed consent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications, contra-indications, side effects of anaesthesia and sedation.</td>
<td>Prepares the patient, carers, staff and environment for procedure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate instruments and environment including infection control measures and staffing requirements required for procedure.</td>
<td>Administers appropriate local anaesthetic, analgesia and sedation where required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Domain 1: Clinical Process

**THEME 1.3:** Procedural skills (refer also to Appendix 1 for a list of assumed Procedural Skills relevant to General Medicine)

**BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.3.2:** Competently perform procedures relevant to Adult Medicine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROCEDURE</th>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency and Elective DC cardioversion.</td>
<td>Defibrillator function.</td>
<td>Uses Smart (automatic) defibrillator.</td>
<td>Cardioversion is performed appropriately and effectively in an emergency setting and in an elective setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Necessity of synchronised shock.</td>
<td>Uses manual defibrillator.</td>
<td>For emergency DC cardioversion, this should be both in a simulated and a real setting, and both as a team member and team leader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Starting voltage.</td>
<td>Performs as team member and as team leader.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of shocks.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure measurement and care of central venous lines.</td>
<td>Desired position of CVP line.</td>
<td>Measures CVP accurately.</td>
<td>CV line monitored regularly and maintained in good condition for as long as needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physiology of CVP monitoring and strategies to ensure measurements are accurate.</td>
<td></td>
<td>CV pressure measured accurately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How to secure line and maintain patency.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Complications are dealt with expediently.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Potential complications.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROCEDURE (Cont.)</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</td>
<td>SKILLS (Cont.)</td>
<td>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (Cont.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-invasive ventilation.</td>
<td>Principles of CPAP and BiPAP. Principles of monitoring and adjustment.</td>
<td>Fits masks. Prescribes pressure.</td>
<td>NIV established and effectively maintained for as long as required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Domain 1: Clinical Process

### THEME 1.3: Procedural skills (refer also to Appendix 1 for a list of assumed Procedural Skills relevant to General Medicine)

### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1.3.3: Provides care following procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potential complications of procedure.</td>
<td>Documents procedure and provides clear instructions related to observations and management required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provides appropriate analgesia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responds appropriately to changes in observations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Domain 2: Medical Expertise

#### THEME 2.1: Management of acute medical problems

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.1.1: Recognise and manage the critically ill patient

**LINKS:** Procedural skills intubation, venous access, NIV; Patient care – oxygen therapy, NIV; Respiratory, CVS, Infectious Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signs and symptoms of impending cardiorespiratory arrest.</td>
<td>Recognises emergency situations and the critically ill adult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical features of serious illness.</td>
<td>Determines rapidly the clinical context and sequence of events leading to the emergency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of acute airway obstruction, respiratory failure, shock and coma.</td>
<td>Conducts a rapid, focussed clinical examination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of oxygen delivery and assisted ventilation.</td>
<td>Establishes a provisional diagnosis and orders appropriate initial investigations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of fluid resuscitation.</td>
<td>Initiates appropriate emergency management, including summoning help, teamwork, team leadership and urgent referral to other services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of inotropic support.</td>
<td>Adapts resuscitation to take account of the environment (e.g. FABC . . . bedside furniture removals to get to A for airway).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles and practice of defibrillation.</td>
<td>Uses a range of strategies to advocate for the patient in situations where other services may appear slow to respond to the urgency of the situation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital emergency codes.</td>
<td>Discusses the situation with a more senior staff member at earliest appropriate opportunity and recognises if transportation or retrieval to another facility is required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location and contents of hospital resuscitation trolleys and their contents.</td>
<td>Monitors patient’s condition appropriately and recognises and acts on complications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of teamwork and leadership in an acute emergency (Link PQC).</td>
<td>Anticipates patients in whom there may well be a rapid deterioration, and reflects on indicators and actions to be taken in the management plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local indications and contra-indications for ICU.</td>
<td>Develops appropriate care plans for patients in whom resuscitation or emergency escalation of care is not indicated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Life Support.</td>
<td>Conveys these plans in the notes, and verbally, to relevant health care staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Life Support.</td>
<td>Performs CPR and BLS according to ILCOR guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performs ALS according to ILCOR guidelines.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

### THEME 2.1: Management of acute medical problems

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.1.2:** Manage specific acute medical problems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| For the following emergencies or potential emergencies, the trainee describes the clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, underlying pathophysiology, initial investigations, initial management, and likely complications:  
- stridor/airway obstruction  
- acute difficulty swallowing  
- hypoxia, respiratory failure  
- hypotension, shock – hypovolemic, septic, cardiogenic, neurogenic, anaphylactic  
- arrhythmia  
- collapse  
- decreased LOC  
- seizures  
- acute paraplegia/weakness/rigidity  
- ascending motor-sensory level  
- acute visual loss  
- acute hearing loss  
- painful red eye  
- acute agitation  
- suicidal behaviour  
- aggression  
- severe acid base and electrolyte disturbances  
- hypoglycaemia  
- diabetic ketoacidosis  
- alcoholic ketoacidosis  
- thyroid, adrenal and pituitary crisis  
- meningitis  
- hyperthermia and hypothermia  
- extensive skin blistering. | Recognises emergency.  
Determines rapidly the clinical context and sequence of events leading to the emergency.  
Conducts focussed clinical examination.  
Establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, determines severity of organ dysfunction(s).  
Initiates appropriate emergency management, including summoning help, and urgent referral to other services.  
Monitors patient’s condition appropriately and recognises and acts on complications. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</th>
<th>SKILLS (Cont.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| The trainee describes the related pharmacology, clinical presentation and initial acute management of the following common and serious poisonings/overdoses:  
  • paracetamol  
  • antidepressants  
  • antipsychotic drugs  
  • alcohol  
  • amphetamines  
  • opioid drugs  
  • benzodiazepines  
  • anticholinesterases  
  • carbon monoxide  
  • iron  
  • venom (Australia – snakes, spiders, jellyfish etc). | For each of these poisonings the trainee identifies symptoms and signs of common poisonings and toxic syndromes, assesses and monitors for other serious consequences of poisoning, initiates emergency management including specific antidotes.  
  Seeks specialist and ICU advice in a timely manner.  
  Uses information databases and the poisons centre.  
  Assesses suicidality. |

The trainee describes the pharmacology and clinical presentation of the following common and serious toxic syndromes:  
  • digoxin toxicity  
  • anticholinergic syndromes  
  • serotonergic syndrome  
  • neuroleptic malignant syndrome. |  

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**Domain 2: Medical Expertise**

**THEME 2.1: Management of acute medical problems**

**BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.1.3:** Communicate with patients and their families/carers in an emergency situation

**LINKS:** PQC – communication skills, communication with patient’s family, ethical dimensions of the workplace, informed consent and competence

**KNOWLEDGE**

(Refer to following aspects of the Professional Qualities Curriculum:  
  • communication skills  
  • communication with patient’s family  
  • ethical dimensions of the workplace  
  • informed consent and competence  
  • cultural competence).  

**SKILLS**

Conveys to families/carers the progress to date, likely cause for situation, immediate therapeutic goals, expected outcome, and any limits on escalation of care.  
Discusses the current situation within the broader context of the trajectory of patient illness and quality of life, including areas of uncertainty.  
Indicates when medical staff will review the situation and/or meet with family again.
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

### THEME 2.2: Manage patients with undifferentiated presentations

### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.2.1: Manage patients with undifferentiated presentations

**LINKS:** PQC - communication skills, communication with patient’s family, ethical dimensions of the workplace, informed consent and competence

### KNOWLEDGE

Differential diagnosis, appropriate investigations and initial management for common, undifferentiated clinical presentations including:

- pain
- fever/PUO/night sweats
- chronic fatigue/lethargy
- syncope/collapse/loss of consciousness
- acute and chronic confusional states
- dyspnoea
- hemoptysis
- weight loss
- vomiting
- functional decline
- weakness
- deformity/swelling
- oedema
- hematuria
- recurrent unexplained presentation.

### SKILLS

Establishes a differential diagnosis and a provisional diagnosis, based on clinical history and physical examination.

- Initiates basic investigations.
- Interprets investigations to plan a further diagnostic process.
- Initiates management on the basis of clinical findings.
- Identifies acutely unwell patients and initiates appropriate resuscitation and/or therapy.
- Initiates symptomatic management of problems such as pain, nausea, dyspnoea etc.
- Engages in discussion with supervisors and patient regarding when to stop investigations.
- For any presentation the trainee recognises the possible contribution of psychological factors, mental illness or personality disorder to the clinical presentation.
# Domain 2: Medical Expertise

## THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM:

**ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE**

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.1: Manage patients with disorders of the cardiovascular system

### LINKS:
- PQC – clinical decision making
- Procedures; therapeutics; investigations; haematology; neurology; issues of immunosuppression (for cardiac transplant recipients) - infectious diseases and immunology

### KNOWLEDGE

#### Basic Sciences

Cardiovascular structure and function:
- conduction
- cardiac cycle
- cardiac output.

Blood pressure homeostasis:
- circulatory control (e.g. splanchnic, macro and microvascular, pulmonary, cerebral).

Shock.
Pathology of atherosclerosis.
Laboratory markers of cardiac disease.
Pharmacology of major drug classes used.

### SKILLS

Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.

Applies basic science knowledge to interpret complex ECGs and chest radiograph.

Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of and appropriately act on reports of echocardiograms, stress tests, myocardial perfusion scans, angiograms, duplex ultrasound scans, ABI, arterial dopplers.

For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:
- acute coronary syndromes
- chronic coronary artery disease
- heart failure
- arrhythmias
- endocarditis
- hypertension
- DVT/PE
- stroke
- peripheral vascular disease.

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and can independently initiate appropriate medical (non-procedural) management for uncomplicated disease.

If there are complications, or procedural intervention is required, the trainee recognises this, provides initial emergency management and refers appropriately.
### KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)

For the following conditions, the trainee describes the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications, therapeutic options and indications for referral:
- valvular heart disease
- pericardial disease.

Cardiovascular manifestations of systemic disease (e.g. diabetes, thyroid, renal, SLE).

### SKILLS (Cont.)

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately.

### TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

- Clinical experience and reflective analysis.
- Bedside teaching.
- Reading journals and textbooks.
- Structured observation and feedback of practice.
- Supervisor discussions.
- Lectures.
- Workshops.
- Presentations.
- E-learning.
- Group discussion.
- Structured learning package.

### ASSESSMENT METHODS

- MCQ.
- Online assessment of ECG and CXRs.
- Assessment at the end of self-learning packages (e.g. online MCQs, assignments, projects, self-audit, supervisor discussions).
- Mini case.
- Long case.
- Case-based discussion.
- Other Ideas:
  - Assessment at the end of self-learning packages (e.g. online MCQs, assignments, projects, self-audit, supervisor discussions).
# Domain 2: Medical Expertise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems</th>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.2: Manage patients with endocrine and metabolic disorders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LINKS:** Rheumatology – osteoporosis; hypertension – Link to renal and cardiovascular Patient care and therapeutics for lifestyle interventions for diabetes, and PQC for lifestyle modification counselling; acute medicine (endocrine emergencies)

## KNOWLEDGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Structure and function of hormones, hormone receptors, second messengers and hormone action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth, development, reproduction and ageing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure and function of hypothalamus, pituitary, thyroid, adrenals, gonads, parathyroids, adipose tissue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretion, transport and feedback control of hormones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbohydrate and lipid metabolism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metabolism – nutrition, obesity, starvation (Link to 2.3.3).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autoimmunity, and genetics as it relates to hormone disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology of major drug classes used.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SKILLS

| For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, orders appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease. If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately. Monitor for complications. |
| Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs. |
| Conducts anthropometric assessment (BMI, WHR, triceps skinfold). |
| Applies basic science knowledge to interpret basic endocrine testing (diagnosis of diabetes, thyroid function testing, cortisol, synacthen tests) and tests of bone and mineral metabolism (Ca/PO4/PTH/VitD). |
| Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on, reports of thyroid scans and bone densitometry, endocrine tissue biopsy, and specialised imaging. |

For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, primary and secondary preventive strategies:

- diabetes mellitus – Type I and II
- osteoporosis
- obesity.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</th>
<th>SKILLS (Cont.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications and disease associations, therapeutic options, adverse effects of disease management and indications for referral:  
- hypothyroidism  
- hyperthyroidism  
- Addison’s disease  
- Cushing’s syndrome  
- benign prostatic disease  
- hypogonadism  
- polycystic ovarian syndrome  
- endocrine causes of hypertension  
- vitamin D deficiency (Link 2.3.7). | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately. |

Endocrine and metabolic manifestations of systemic disease.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure and function of the gastrointestinal system.</td>
<td>Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, abdominal X-ray, abdominal CT scan, and laboratory tests (including LFTs, liver screen, viral serology, coeliac serology, helicobacter testing, malabsorption tests, faecal microscopy and culture and toxin testing).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hormonal/enzymatic control of the alimentary tract including control of acid and pancreatic secretion.</td>
<td>Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on reports of, abdominal ultrasound, upper and lower endoscopy, ERCP, MRCP, MRA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory markers of hepatic and pancreatic function and malabsorption.</td>
<td>For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, orders appropriate investigations, and can independently initiate appropriate medical (non-procedural) management for uncomplicated disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bilirubin metabolism.</td>
<td>If there are complications or procedural intervention is required, the trainee recognises this, provides initial emergency management and refers appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol metabolism (see also addiction medicine/toxicology).</td>
<td>For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macro and micronutrient absorption.</td>
<td>• gastrointestinal bleeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition and fluid balance (link to patient care and therapeutics).</td>
<td>• gastro-esophageal reflux disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology of major drug classes used.</td>
<td>• peptic ulcer disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• acute and chronic liver disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• obesity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</td>
<td>SKILLS (Cont.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications, therapeutic options and indications for referral:  • biliary obstruction  • allstones  • acute pancreatitis  • inflammatory bowel disease  • irritable bowel syndrome  • coeliac disease  • malabsorption  • gastrointestinal malignancy (see also management of solid organ malignancy 1.1.6, screening in 2.4.3)  • oesophageal motility disorders.</td>
<td>For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal manifestations of systemic disease (e.g. NASH, diabetes, CF).  (Link – diarrhoea (undifferentiated), acute diarrhoeal illness (ID).  Link anaemia – haematology.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

### THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.4: Manage patients with non-malignant disorders of the haematological system

### LINKS: Cancer; anticoagulation – therapeutics; blood transfusion, end of life; procedures – central lines; lumbar puncture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science</strong></td>
<td>Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure and function of blood-forming tissues, reticuloendothelial system, and blood components.</td>
<td>Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, full blood count and film, coagulation profile, thrombophilia screens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemoglobin structure and function.</td>
<td>Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately acts on reports of, bone marrow aspirate and trephine, cytogenesis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coagulation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemopoiesis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iron, B12 and folate metabolism.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of transfusion and bone marrow transplantation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology of major haematinics and erythropoietin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics of thalassemia.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemolysis.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**For the following common and important condition, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:**

- anaemia.

**For this condition, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease.**

If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.

Monitors for complications.
### Knowledge (Cont.)

For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications, therapeutic options and indications for referral:

- lymphadenopathy
- bleeding disorders
- thrombophilia
- haemophilia
- disseminated intravascular coagulopathy
- neutropenia
- pancytopenia
- thrombocytopenia (including immune)
- aplastic anaemia/bone marrow failure
- plasma cell dyscrasias/myeloma
- myelodysplasia
- myeloproliferative disease
- haemolytic disorders.

### Skills (Cont.)

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately.

Haematological manifestations of systemic disease (anaemia chronic disease, haemolysis, cytopenia).
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

### THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.5: Manage patients with disorders of the immune system

#### LINKS:
- Therapeutic drug monitoring, corticosteroids; immunosuppressed patient
- Rheumatology – connective tissue disease; skin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science</strong>&lt;br&gt;Inflammation – acute, chronic.&lt;br&gt;Healing and repair.&lt;br&gt;Structure and function of spleen, lymph nodes and other lymphoid tissue.&lt;br&gt;Immune responses – innate and adaptive.&lt;br&gt;Action of immunosuppressive agents.&lt;br&gt;Allergic responses.&lt;br&gt;Autoimmunity.&lt;br&gt;Principles of immunisation.&lt;br&gt;Transplant biology including HLA.&lt;br&gt;Pharmacology of major drug classes used.&lt;br&gt;</td>
<td>Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.&lt;br&gt;Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, laboratory investigations (FBC, assays of HIV serology/viral load, immunoglobulins, protein electrophoresis, inflammatory markers, RF, CCP, ANA, dsDNA, ENA, ANCA, complement profiles).&lt;br&gt;Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on reports of, tissue biopsies, specialised imaging.&lt;br&gt;Applies basic science knowledge to the use of:&lt;br&gt;  - steroids (Link 1.2.2)&lt;br&gt;  - blood products&lt;br&gt;  - anaphylaxis management plans&lt;br&gt;  - immunisation and at-risk groups.&lt;br&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications and disease associations, therapeutic options, adverse effects of disease management and indications for referral:<br>  - allergic disorders – anaphylaxis (Link Acute care), food allergy, adverse drug reactions (Link 1.2.2), allergic rhinitis/sinusitis/conjunctivitis, atopic dermatitis (Link 2.2.11), urticaria (Link 2.2.11).<br>  - autoimmune diseases – SLE, PSS, dermatomyositis, polymyositis (Link to musculoskeletal).<br>  - acquired immunodeficiency syndromes – HIV (Link 2.4.3), immunosuppressive drugs (Link 1.2.2), post transplantation.<br>  - vasculitis.<br>  - Immunological manifestations of systemic disease.  

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately.
### Domain 2: Medical Expertise

#### THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.6:** Manage patients with mental health disorders

**LINKS:** Nervous system; acute withdrawal in acute medicine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science</strong></td>
<td>Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure and function of limbic system and hippocampus.</td>
<td>Applies basic science knowledge to interpret mental status examination, and tests of cognitive function.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurotransmitters.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of addiction and tolerance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology of major drug classes used.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Local protocols for liaison with psychiatric services.
- Indications for sectioning, and therapeutic options under Mental Health Act.
- Local drug and alcohol services.

For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications and disease associations, therapeutic options, adverse effects of disease management and indications for referral:

- mood disorders
- psychosis
- anxiety disorders
- grief reaction
- eating disorders
- substance abuse
- unsuccessful suicide attempt
- parasuicide
- somatoform disorder.

For each condition the trainee recognises the clinical presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations to rule out organic causes, discusses broad therapeutic options (including non-pharmacological), initiates appropriate emergency management and involves other members of the team wherever appropriate and refers appropriately.

If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.

For any presentation the trainee recognises the possible contribution of mental illness or personality disorder to the clinical presentation.

Evaluates suicide risk.

Monitors for complications.
### KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)

For the following commonly abused drugs, the pattern of use, relevant pharmacology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, detailed management of acute intoxication, complications and secondary preventive strategies:
- alcohol
- opioids
- benzodiazepines
- amphetamines
- cocaine
- cannabis
- ecstasy
- solvents
- GHB
- nicotine.

Mental health manifestations of systemic disease. Link to 1.2.1 and 1.2.3 Healthy lifestyle.

### SKILLS (Cont.)

For each of these the trainee acquires adequate history of drug use, recognises signs of drug use and abuse on general history and examination, recognises impact of drug use on presentation, institutes appropriate emergency management of overdose/toxic effects of illicit drug use.

For the following conditions, the trainee recognises the withdrawal state and safely manages acute withdrawal on the ward:
- alcohol
- opioids
- benzodiazepines
- nicotine.

The trainee uses a validated tool for assessing level of alcohol use.

The trainee conducts brief interventions to reduce harm from drug use.

---

### Domain 2: Medical Expertise

#### THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.7: Manage patients with disorders of the musculoskeletal system

#### LINKS: Immunology; immunosuppression; functional rehabilitation; procedural skills – joint aspirate

#### KNOWLEDGE

**Basic Science**
- Structure and function of bone, muscle and synovium.
- Bone and mineral metabolism.
- Purine metabolism.
- Pharmacology of major drug classes used.

#### SKILLS

Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.

Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, imaging (plain radiographs, bone densitometry), laboratory tests of bone and mineral metabolism (Ca/PO4/PTH/VitD/ALP), investigations to monitor inflammation and disease activity and to diagnose immunologically-mediated disease (ESR, CRP, RF, ANA, ENA), synovial fluid analysis.

Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on, reports of specialised imaging of bones and joints.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</th>
<th>SKILLS (Cont.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:  
  - osteoarthritis  
  - osteoporosis. | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease.  
If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.  
Monitors for complications. |
| For the following conditions the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications and disease associations, therapeutic options, adverse effects of disease management and indications for referral:  
  - gout and pseudogout  
  - rheumatoid arthritis  
  - seronegative arthritides  
  - fibromyalgia  
  - polymyalgia rheumatica/temporal arteritis  
  - dermatomyositis/polymyositis  
  - osteomalacia  
  - common fractures. | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately. |

Musculoskeletal manifestations of systemic and chronic disease.  
Osteoporosis.  
Link septic arthritis to infection.  
Musculoskeletal manifestations of systemic disease (vitamin D deficiency, renal disease, osteoarthritis).
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

### THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.8: Manage patients with disorders of the neurological system

#### LINKS:
- Acute management of neurological emergencies; delirium; somatisation/functional Undifferentiated presentations; older people; procedural skills; investigations CVS, functional rehab; infectious diseases; oncology; rheumatology
- PQC – health law/driving

### KNOWLEDGE

#### Basic Science
- Neuroanatomy including cerebral blood supply.
- Electrical activity of the brain and nerve conduction.
- Metabolism of the brain.
- Neurotransmitters and neurotransmission (including ANS).
- Sleep-wake regulation.
- Concept of brain death.
- Pharmacology of major drug classes used.
- Vision and hearing.

### SKILLS

- Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.
- Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, and major abnormalities on CT head.
- Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on reports of, EEGs, NCSs and EMGs, autonomic function testing.
- Applies basic science principles to interpret clinical findings, reports of perimetry, audiometry.

For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:

- stroke
- meningitis/encephalitis.

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease.

If there are complications, or special intervention is indicated (e.g. thrombolysis for stroke), the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.

Monitors for complications.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</th>
<th>SKILLS (Cont.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications, therapeutic options and indications for referral:  
  • epilepsy  
  • migraine  
  • peripheral neuropathy – acquired and hereditary  
  • Bell's palsy  
  • temporal arteritis  
  • cerebral neoplasia  
  • Parkinson's disease  
  • Guillain Barre syndrome  
  • spinal cord compression  
  • multiple sclerosis  
  • motor neurone disease  
  • cerebellar disorders. | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately. |

Link – confusion undifferentiated presentations.  
Syncope – undifferentiated presentations.  
Genetic disorders (Huntington’s).  
Care of the elderly (cognitive decline).  
Neurological manifestations of systemic disease (peripheral neuropathy, paraneoplastic, seizure).  
Link to confusion, weakness in undifferentiated 2.2.1.  
Link to seizure in acute 2.1.2.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain 2: Medical Expertise</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THEME 2.3:</strong> Manage patients with disorders of organ systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.9:</strong> Manage patients with disorders of the renal and genitourinary systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LINKS:** Therapeutics – fluid management; therapeutics – drug monitoring and adjusting for renal failure
Immunology – immunosuppression in relation to renal transplantation

### KNOWLEDGE

**Basic Science**
- Structure and function of the renal system and male and female genital tract (Link to care of the pregnant woman, endocrine).
- Regulation of fluid and electrolyte status.
- Acid base regulation (Link to respiratory).
- Urine composition.
- Hormonal regulation – ADH, renin-angiotensin system (Link to endocrine).
- Measurement of renal function/calculation of creatinine clearance and GFR.
- Principles of renal replacement therapy – transplant and dialysis.
- Pharmacology of major drug classes used.

### SKILLS
- Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.
- Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, laboratory tests (renal function, electrolytes, MSU, ABGs).
- Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act, on reports of imaging (renal tract ultrasound, functional renal scans, renal angiograms, urograms), renal biopsies.
- Anticipates future need for dialysis or transplant, refers for vascular access where appropriate, and avoids cannulation of target vessels.

For the following common and important condition, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:
- **urosepsis.**

For this condition, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and can independently initiate appropriate medical (non-procedural) management for uncomplicated disease.

If there are complications or procedural intervention is required, the trainee recognises this, provides initial emergency management and refers appropriately.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</th>
<th>SKILLS (Cont.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications, therapeutic options and indications for referral:  
- acute and chronic renal failure  
- complications of renal replacement therapy  
- acute tubular necrosis  
- renovascular disease  
- diabetic nephropathy  
- obstructive uropathy  
- drug-related nephrotoxicity  
- renal hypertension  
- glomerulonephritis  
- interstitial kidney disease  
- renal carcinoma  
- genitourinary malignancies (prostate, testicular bladder, uterine/cervical/ovarian). | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately. |

Renal manifestations of systemic disease.
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

### THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.10: Manage patients with disorders of the respiratory and sleep system

**LINKS:** Patient care and therapeutics – oxygen therapy, indications for ICU, drugs; procedural skills – ventilation, placement of ICC, pleural tap; acute emergencies (put in ICU indications) Immunology – issues of immunosuppression in lung transplantation

### KNOWLEDGE

**Basic Science**
- Anatomy of lungs/airways.
- Gas exchange.
- Ventilation.
- Ventilation perfusion matching.
- Acid base balance.
- Applied respiratory physiology – to interpret basic pulmonary function tests.
- Pharmacology of major drug classes used.
- Occupational and environmental toxins (e.g. cigarettes, asbestos).
- Inflammation of airways.

For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:
- pneumonia
- acute and chronic respiratory failure
- asthma
- pulmonary embolus
- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- pleural effusion.

### SKILLS

- Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.
- Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, imaging (CXR, chest CT, CTPA, VQ scans), pulse oximetry, blood gases, basic pulmonary function tests.
- Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on, reports of bronchoscopy, tissue biopsy, sleep studies.

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease.

If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.

Monitors for complications.
For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications, therapeutic options and indications for referral:

- pneumothorax
- pulmonary hypertension
- diffuse lung disease
- sleep apnoea
- lung cancer (Link to cancer)
- cystic fibrosis
- bronchiectasis
- tuberculosis (Link 2.4.3)
- pulmonary vasculitides (Link immune).
- Link – hemoptysis (undifferentiated disorders).

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initial symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately.

Respiratory manifestations of systemic disease.

### Domain 2: Medical Expertise

#### THEME 2.3: Manage patients with disorders of organ systems

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.3.11: Manage patients with skin disorders

#### LINKS: Musculoskeletal; cancer; immunology; immunosuppression; procedural skills
- skin biopsy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Basic Science**  
Structure and function of skin, hair and nails  
Pigmentary, inflammatory, immune responses of the skin.  
Pharmacology of major drug classes used.  | Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.  
Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs including description of skin lesions using standard nomenclature.  
Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on reports of, skin and lesion biopsy. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</th>
<th>SKILLS (Cont.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:  
  • drug eruptions  
  • cellulitis. | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease.  
If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.  
Monitors for complications. |
| For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications and disease associations, therapeutic options, adverse effects of disease management and indications for referral:  
  • skin cancer  
  • dermatitis  
  • psoriasis  
  • skin manifestations of systemic diseases  
  • arterial and venous ulcers  
  • non-healing ulcers and wounds  
  • nodular skin lesions  
  • vasculitis  
  • naevi  
  • fungal infections  
  • viral exanthema  
  • scabies, head lice. | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates symptomatic therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately. |

Skin manifestations of systemic disease.
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

### THEME 2.4: Manage patients with defined disease processes

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.4.1: Manage patients with neoplastic diseases

**LINKS:** Palliative care and symptom control; blood transfusion; end of life; procedures – central lines; acute emergencies; haematology; clinical decision making; disease trajectory; population in PQC; preventive health in Foundation Curriculum

### KNOWLEDGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Science</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell growth and ageing, cell injury, apoptosis.</td>
<td>Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular and cellular oncogenesis.</td>
<td>Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, CXR, CT head, chest, abdomen, bone scan, laboratory tests (e.g. tumour markers, cytology, body fluid analysis).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metastatic spread.</td>
<td>Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on, reports of more specialised imaging, predictive genetic testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of staging.</td>
<td>For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management of presenting symptoms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad pharmacological principles of chemotherapy, radiotherapy and immunotherapy.</td>
<td>If a diagnosis of cancer is considered, the trainee develops an appropriate management plan in consultation with their supervisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening tests.</td>
<td>If there are complications and/or procedural intervention is required, the trainee recognises this, provides initial emergency management and refers appropriately.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the following malignancies, the risk factors, clinical presentation, natural history, broad therapeutic options and preventive strategies including screening:

- lung
- breast
- gastrointestinal
- prostate
- skin
- brain
- carcinoma of unknown primary
- lymphoma
- multiple myeloma
- leukaemia
- potentially curable cancers.

The management of important acute complications of cancer:

- uncontrolled pain
- malignant hypercalcemia
- spinal cord compression
- SVC obstruction
- pericardial tamponade.
The management of important complications of cancer therapy:
- bone marrow suppression
- neutropenic sepsis
- tumour lysis syndrome
- mucositis
- graft vs. host disease.

Initiates management of complications including pain, neutropenic sepsis, tumour lysis syndrome, mucositis, fluid balance disturbances, common chemotherapy side effects.

**Domain 2: Medical Expertise**

**THEME 2.4:** Manage patients with defined disease processes

**BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.4.2:** Manage patients with genetic disorders

**LINKS:** PCQ – communication; end of life

**KNOWLEDGE**

**Basic Science**
- Structure and function of human cells, genes, DNA, RNA, proteins.
- Principles of Mendelian, sex-linked, mitochondrial inheritance, parental disomy, repeating triplet sequences, polygenic inheritance.
- Definitions of polymorphism, mutation, genetic segregation analysis, sex-linked, multifactorial and polygenic inheritance.
- Major cancer genetics.
- Basic principles of individualised medicine and pharmacogenetics.
- Genetic testing techniques: PCR, FISH, gene sequencing.
- Awareness of genetic databases.
- Human Genome Project.
- Implications to family of a genetic diagnosis.

**SKILLS**

- Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.
- Applies basic science knowledge to collate an accurate family history.
- Constructs and interprets a family pedigree.
- Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of, and appropriately act on reports of, genetic tests.
For the following common genetic diseases, the inheritance, phenotype(s), clinical presentation, natural history, complications and comorbidities principles of ongoing management and appropriate referral:
- trisomy 21
- Turner’s
- cystic fibrosis
- haemochromatosis
- Marfan’s
- Klinefelter’s
- Huntington’s
- familial cancers.

If a genetic disease is present, or considered, the trainee develops an appropriate management plan in consultation with their supervisor (Link to clinical decision making, disease trajectory).

Domain 2: Medical Expertise

THEME 2.4: Manage patients with defined disease processes

BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM:
ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.4.3: Manage patients with infectious diseases

LINKS: Therapeutics; PQC – population health; pre and post-test counselling – communication; notifiable diseases (PQC) – to every other organ system; antimicrobial therapy – therapeutics

KNOWLEDGE

Basic Science
- Biology of common and important pathogens.
- Host response to infection.
- Principles underlying laboratory testing for infectious diseases.
- Principles of infection control.
- Immunisation.
- Pharmacology of major drug classes used.
- Local guidelines for post-exposure prophylaxis.
- Local guidelines for public health notification.

SKILLS

- Conducts a focussed clinical examination and applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs.
- Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, laboratory tests (FBC, inflammatory markers, microbiology, virology, serology), basic imaging (CXR, CT head, CT abdo/pelvis).
- Applies basic science knowledge to assess potential routes of infection/transmission, secondary sites of infection.
- Applies basic science knowledge to appreciate the significance of and appropriately act on reports of complex investigations – nuclear medicine scanning, ultrasound scan.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE (Cont.)</th>
<th>SKILLS (Cont.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| For the following common and important conditions, the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, potential complications of the disease and its management, preventive strategies:  
- pneumonia/lower respiratory tract infections  
- meningitis/encephalitis  
- upper respiratory tract infections including otitis media and tonsillitis  
- conjunctivitis  
- UTI  
- infective endocarditis  
- cellulitis  
- diarrhoeal illness  
- septicaemia/bacteremia. | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease.  
If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.  
Monitors for complications. |
| For the following conditions, the clinical presentation, initial investigations, initial management, potential complications and disease associations, therapeutic options, adverse effects of disease management and indications for referral:  
- osteomyelitis, septic arthritis  
- TB  
- HIV  
- hepatitis viruses  
- EBV/CMV/Toxo  
- meningococcaemia  
- common STDs  
- infections in the immunocompromised host  
- fever in the returning traveller – including malaria, dengue fever, parasitic infections. | For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate initial investigations, initiates empiric therapy, discusses broad therapeutic options, and refers appropriately. |
## THEME 2.5: Medicine throughout the lifespan/growth and development

### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.5.1: Manage common presentations in adolescents

#### KNOWLEDGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal growth patterns including recognition of normal and abnormal pubertal development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical, intellectual, emotional, psychological and social factors in adolescent development and disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of acute and chronic illness on adolescent development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law and ethical principles in dealing with adolescents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating disorders in adolescence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issues of body perception and self-awareness in adolescents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance use and abuse in adolescents and their onset.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health disorders in adolescence and their various presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk behaviours and self-harm in adolescence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual and reproductive health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender identity of adolescents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of common comorbidities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issues relating to transition of care.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SKILLS

- Takes history and conducts a physical examination appropriate to this age group.
- Negotiates management plan in collaboration with young person.
- Recognises important mental health issues in adolescents, particularly where they arise in setting of chronic disease.
- Assesses the cognitive ability for understanding choices and ability to make choices and provide informed consent.
- Identifies risk behaviours and counsels and educates the young person regarding these.
  - Psychosocial assessment – including HEADSS.
  - Appropriate use of chaperone for physical examination.
  - Assessment of pubertal status.
  - Assessment of risk and protective factors.
  - Techniques for improving adherence.
  - External perineal examination.
  - Investigation of sexually transmitted diseases.
  - Capacity for liaison and communication with community, health, drug and alcohol, education and welfare practitioners.
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME 2.5: Medicine throughout the lifespan/growth and development</th>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.5.2: Manage common presentations in pregnancy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOWLEDGE</td>
<td>SKILLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science</strong></td>
<td>Recognises pregnancy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological changes associated with normal pregnancy and lactation.</td>
<td>Differentiates between normal symptoms of pregnancy and disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in pharmacokinetics with normal pregnancy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanisms of teratogenesis (drugs, infections, radiation, pre-pregnancy lifestyle issues) and prevention.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post chicken pox exposure management.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in normal ranges of common blood tests in pregnancy (FBC, TFTs, electrolytes, creatinine, LFTs, ABGs, ECG).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk factors for common pregnancy associated diseases – hypertension, diabetes, thromboembolism.</td>
<td>Manages common medical problems in the pregnant woman (e.g. asthma).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural history, presentations, differential diagnosis, initial investigations, diagnostic criteria, emergency management of pre-eclampsia/eclampsia.</td>
<td>Diagnoses and manages common conditions encountered more frequently in pregnancy – urinary tract infection, thromboembolism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risks associated with various investigative procedures, particularly imaging, during pregnancy.</td>
<td>Uses available pharmacopeia to identify safest drugs for use in pregnancy and lactation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises the presentation of pre-eclampsia/eclampsia, orders appropriate initial investigations, provides emergency management, and calls for assistance.</td>
<td>Recognises the presentation of pre-eclampsia/eclampsia, orders appropriate initial investigations, provides emergency management, and calls for assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refers appropriately (pregnancy associated disease, high-risk pregnancy).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considers the possibility of pregnancy, and advises or refers for pre-conception counselling as appropriate.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsels women regarding healthy behaviour during pregnancy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Domain 2: Medical Expertise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME 2.5: Medicine throughout the lifespan/growth and development</th>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.5.3: Manage common problems associated with the menopause</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### KNOWLEDGE

**Basic Science**

Physiological changes associated with peri-menopause and post-menopausal period.

Clinical presentation of menopause.

Risk factors for disease in post-menopausal female:
- osteoporosis
- cardiovascular disease
- neoplasia
- incontinence
- depression.

Evidence for interventions to detect and prevent:
- decline, post-menopause-osteoporosis, cardiovascular disease.

### SKILLS

- Detects symptoms of normal and abnormal menopause.
- Appropriately examines and conducts investigations for post-menopausal female, including breast and pelvic examination and screening investigations.
- Appropriately examines and conducts investigation for early onset menopause.
- Manages disease associated with menopause.
- Detects symptoms of depression and recognises psychosocial factors impacting on presentation.
- Counsels peri- and post-menopausal women regarding healthy lifestyle.
- Promotes screening to detect early disease – breast, cervical, bone density for those with risk factors, cardiovascular risk screening.
### Domain 2: Medical Expertise

#### THEME 2.5: Medicine throughout the lifespan/growth and development

#### BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.5.4: Manage problems in the older patient

**LINKS:** PQC – ethics, law, communication  
Acute emergencies; patient care and therapeutics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science</strong></td>
<td><strong>Applies basic science knowledge to interpret clinical signs, laboratory tests, basic imaging, tests of mental status examination, and tests of cognitive function.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Physiology of ageing – pharmacology, changes associated with ageing in major organ systems.  
Cellular ageing, tissue growth and repair.  
Non-specific presentation of illness in the elderly. |
| Medicolegal aspects of care of the older person: competence, duty of care, guardianship, medical futility. | **Recognises when a patient may be incompetent to make a decision, and initiates appropriate referral.** |

For the following common and important problems in older people the trainee describes the epidemiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations, detailed initial management, principles of ongoing management, preventive strategies:

- polypharmacy and adverse drug reactions
- falls
- delirium
- cognitive decline
- incontinence
- constipation
- functional decline
- psychiatric presentations including depression, anxiety, mania.

For these conditions, the trainee recognises the presentation of illness, establishes a provisional diagnosis, plans and arranges appropriate investigations, and independently initiates appropriate management for uncomplicated disease.

If there are complications, the trainee recognises these, and refers appropriately.

Monitors for complications.
### Domain 2: Medical Expertise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME 2.5: Medicine throughout the lifespan/growth and development</th>
<th>BASIC TRAINING CURRICULUM: ADULT INTERNAL MEDICINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2.5.5: Manage patients at the end of life

#### LINKS: PQC – communication, teamwork

#### KNOWLEDGE

**Basic Science**
- Pathophysiology of pain.
- Pharmacology of analgesics and other agents used to treat major symptom complexes.
- Dose conversions to parenteral or transdermal medications.
- Medicolegal aspects of end-of-life care: futility, consent.

#### SKILLS

- Establishes a differential diagnosis and a provisional diagnosis, based on clinical history and physical examination.
- Recognises the dying phase.
- Uses appropriate agents in symptom control to optimise quality of life.
- Assesses needs of family and carers.
- Respects wishes of family and carers.

For the following major symptom complexes, the trainee describes aetiology, and therapeutic modalities:
- pain
- constipation
- dyspnoea
- excessive secretions
- nausea and vomiting
- restlessness.
Assumed Skills
(to be read in conjunction with Theme 1.3 Procedural Skills)

It is assumed that trainees will have the following skills – if not, appropriate remedial action will need to undertaken.

By the end of PGY2, trainees should be competent and confident to perform the following procedures relevant to general medicine:

- venepuncture, cannulation
- blood cultures from peripheral and central sites
- setting up a complete drip set and burette
- ECG recording
- arterial blood sampling
- injection – subcutaneous, intradermal, intramuscular and intravenous
- urethral catheterisation – male and female
- application of oxygen administration devices
- minor suturing and debridement of wounds
- dipstick urinalysis
- blood glucose determination using capillary blood

- airway assessment and management including jaw thrust, chin lift and insertion of an oral airway
- intubations in straightforward situations
- bag and mask ventilation of unintubated patients
- spirometry and peak expiratory flow rate determination
- throat/pus/wound swabs
- cervical smear and swabs
- nasogastric tube insertion
- ankle – brachial BP index determination
- bladder scanning to determine post void residual.

At the end of Basic Training, in addition to the PGY2 skills, the trainee should be competent and confident to perform:

- DC cardioversion – emergency and elective
- intercostal drain insertion and management
- knee joint aspiration
- lumbar puncture
- pleural and ascitic fluid aspiration

- nasal support ventilation (CPAP, BiPaP)
- tracheostomy care and immediate complication management
- pressure measurement and care of central venous lines.

Other procedures that may be performed during Basic Training but will require further experience under supervision during advanced specialist training:

- use of a temporary pacing box and external pacing machine
- supervision of exercise ECG testing
- insert arterial line
- aspiration of shoulder joint, and other joints
- bone marrow biopsy
- echocardiography
- insertion of catheters directly into central veins

- sigmoidoscopy
- skin biopsy
- rectal biopsy
- gastroscopy
- colonoscopy
- pleural biopsy
- catheter aspiration of pneumothorax
- liver biopsy.
**APPENDIX 2**

**LINKS TO RCPA BASIC PATHOLOGICAL SCIENCES CURRICULUM**

The following areas within the basic pathological sciences curriculum of the RCPA are integrated within the Basic Training and Professional Qualities Curricula of the RACP and as such may all be assessable by the completion of Basic Training for trainee physicians and paediatricians. The following table will help to identify specific cross-references.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RCPA content area</th>
<th>RACP learning objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cellular pathology (cell growth and ageing, cell injury and death)</td>
<td>BTC 2.5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute and chronic inflammation, healing and repair</td>
<td>BTC 2.3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunity (building blocks of the immune system, hypersensitivity reactions, autoimmune diseases, AIDS, amyloidosis)</td>
<td>BTC 2.3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemodynamic disorders (oedema, thrombosis, embolism, infarction, shock)</td>
<td>BTC 1.2.1, 2.1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetic basis of disease (genetic mechanisms of disease, basic knowledge of the more common genetic diseases as well as an understanding of commonly used genetic tests)</td>
<td>BTC 2.4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology (general principles of microbial pathogenesis, common viral and bacterial infections, common parasitic infections)</td>
<td>BTC 2.4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neoplasia (biology of benign and malignant tumours, epidemiology of cancer, molecular and cellular oncogenesis)</td>
<td>BTC 2.4.1, PQC 9.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational and environmental pathology (common toxins and manifestations in the human body, such as smoking, asbestos, industrial toxins)</td>
<td>BTC 2.2.10, PQC 9.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition, metabolism (common nutritional deficiencies, obesity)</td>
<td>BTC 2.3.2, 2.3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acid-base balance and fluid/electrolyte disturbances (basic physiological and pathophysiological mechanisms)</td>
<td>BTC 1.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In each of the above, emphasis will be placed on:</td>
<td>All integrated within Basic Training Curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• nomenclature and definitions of disease</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• classifications of diseases</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• disease processes/pathogenesis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• causation/aetiology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• scientific methodology and new diagnostic methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics, social and political aspects of pathology and disease</td>
<td>PQC domains 5, 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of data (incidence, prevalence, accuracy, precision, predictive value, correlation)</td>
<td>PQC 3.2, 6.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(BTC – Basic Training Curriculum; PQC – Professional Qualities Curriculum)