

Dalhousie University Department of Medicine

Level 3 Objectives for the Internal Medicine Clerkship

1. **Conduct** a clinical interview in adults with complex medical problems that results in the obtaining of complete and relevant patient history.
2. **Conduct** a complete and relevant physical examination for adults with complex medical problems and be able to evaluate the result of this examination in the context of the patient history.
3. **Demonstrate** clinical problem solving skills, including the ability to diagnose and initially manage with supervision, common acute and chronic medical conditions.
4. **Demonstrate** an approach to the diagnosis and management of relatively uncommon medical conditions and appreciate how they might present in the clinical setting.
5. **Demonstrate** the ability to perform in real life clinical practice by participating in overnight call responsibilities.
6. **Communicate effectively, orally and in writing**, including recording in the patient chart, writing orders, presenting cases, prescribing, sending referrals, dictating letters and summarizing patient care and recommendations.
7. **Describe** the indications for and methods used in common diagnostic and interventional tests including laboratory tests, x rays and electrocardiograms. Interpret the results of these tests within the context of the patient encounter, and their impact on diagnostic and therapeutic decision making.
8. **Demonstrate** competence regarding strategies for health promotion and disease prevention in patients with complex medical conditions, including secondary prevention (i.e. delaying or preventing the progression of co-morbid disease)
9. **Demonstrate** the attitudes and professional behaviors appropriate for clinical practice.
10. **Identify and use** appropriate sources of information to support the delivery of patient care, including critical appraisal of the medical literature.
11. **Demonstrate** a working knowledge of commonly used medications including their mechanisms of action, indications for use, expected treatment outcomes and common adverse effects.
12. **Understand** how combinations of medication can contribute to adverse outcomes (polypharmacy). Perform a detailed drug review for an older adult
13. **Demonstrate** an approach to considering the ethical aspects of the practice of medicine including Advance Care Planning and Decision Making in the patient with a poor prognosis.
14. **Engage** in a respectful, collaborative, and appropriate approach to patient care and management with the patient, families, and member of the health professions team