

Supplemental Guide: Surgery



January 2019

Milestones Supplemental Guide

This document provides additional guidance and examples for the Surgery Milestones. This is not designed to indicate any specific requirements for each level, but to provide insight into the thinking of the Milestone Work Group.

Included in this document is the intent of each Milestone and examples of what a Clinical Competency Committee (CCC) might expect to be observed/assessed at each level. Also included are suggested assessment models and tools for each subcompetency, references, and other useful information.

Review this guide with the CCC and faculty members. As the program develops a shared mental model of the Milestones, consider creating an individualized guide (Supplemental Guide Template available) with institution/program-specific examples, assessment tools used by the program, and curricular components.

Surgery Supplemental Guide	
Patient Care 1: Patient Evaluation and Decision Making Overall Intent: To ensure progressive development of knowledge and skill required to evaluate and manage patients with surgical conditions	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Gathers necessary information and develops a differential diagnosis for patients in all clinical settings	Gathers information and develops a differential diagnosis for patients presenting in the following settings:
Level 2 Evaluates patients; orders and interprets diagnostic testing	 Orders and interprets chest x-ray, acute abdominal series Orders and interprets abdominal computed tomography (CT)
Manages non-operative straightforward patients and conditions (e.g., bowel obstruction, diverticulitis)	 Manages patients with appendicitis Evaluates patient with groin pain Evaluates patient with breast mass
Level 3 Develops a plan to manage straightforward patients (e.g., healthy patients) and conditions (e.g., colon cancer, breast cancer)	Develops plan for managing patients with: o hernia o symptomatic cholelithiasis o thyroid nodule
Adapts management plan for changing clinical situation (e.g., drainage of diverticular abscess)	 Adapts plan for changing patient condition in patients with: small bowel obstruction Crohn's disease gastrointestinal (GI) bleeding aneurysm
Level 4 Develops a plan to manage complex patients (e.g., patient with multiple comorbidities) and conditions (e.g., hemorrhagic shock)	 Develops plan for managing patients with surgical conditions as well as: decompensated heart failure frailty myocardial infarction liver failure
Manages non-operative complex patients and conditions (e.g., severe pancreatitis)	 renal failure Manages patients with: blunt and penetrating trauma septic shock severe malnutrition

Level 5 Develops a clinical pathway or guideline for the management of complex patients and conditions	 Develops sepsis protocol Develops pathway for treating patients with small bowel obstruction
Assessment Models or Tools	 Complexity Assessment and Monitoring to Ensure Optimal Outcomes (CAMEOs) Direct observation End of rotation evaluation Entrustable Professional Activities Mock orals Simulation
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	•

Patient Care 2: Intra-Operative Patient Care – Performance of Procedures Overall Intent: To ensure the progressive development of integrated knowledge and skills to complete an operation	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates basic skills (e.g., knot	The resident demonstrates one-handed and two-handed knots under various conditions,
tying, suturing)	including depth of wound
	Closes simple and complex wounds
	Places laparoscopic ports and operates camera
	Uses a scalpel to make an incision
Level 2 Performs bedside procedures (e.g.,	Places a central line
central line, chest tube)	Places chest tube
	Performs wound debridement
Teaches basic skills to medical students and	Places arterial line
junior residents	Performs negative pressure wound therapy
	Excision of small skin and subcutaneous lesions
	Performs image guided biopsy
	Teaches Level 1 skills
Level 3 Performs common operations (e.g.,	Performs sleeve gastrectomy
hernia, cholecystectomy, appendectomy)	Performs diagnostic endoscopy or percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy placement
Teaches bedside operations to junior residents	Performs vascular anastomosis
reaches beuside operations to junior residents	Performs tracheostomy
	Performs partial mastectomy
Lavel A Derferme complex an entire of a subset	Teaches Level 2 skills
Level 4 Performs complex operations (e.g., low	Performs low anterior resection
anterior resection, paraesophegeal hernia, abdominal wall reconstruction)	Performs anti-reflux procedures
abdominar wan reconstruction)	Performs abdominal wall reconstruction
Teaches common operations to junior residents	Performs vascular bypass procedure
Todalios commen operations to jumer recidente	Performs distal pancreatectomy
	Teaches Level 3 skills
Level 5 Performs uncommon complex	erforms liver resections
operations (e.g., Whipple, esophagectomy)	Performs open aortic aneurysm repair
Table a secondary and the secondary	Performs complex enterocutaneous fistula repair
Teaches complex operations to junior residents	Teaches Level 4 skills
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	End of rotation evaluation
	Multisource feedback

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Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 In Levels 2-5 it is assumed the resident is performing the complete procedure, including: procedure/equipment set-up; patient positioning; use of aseptic techniques; leading the procedure; and controlling the flow of the procedure

Patient Care 3: Intra-Operative Patient Care – Technical Skills Overall Intent: To ensure the progressive development of technical skills needed to complete an operation including tissue handling, instrument use, and recognition of anatomy	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates limited tissue-handling skills Requires prompting to identify appropriate tissue	Examples in an open inguinal hernia repair: Needs explicit direction to mark incision site Can use electrocautery with supervising surgeon providing exposure and guidance
plane Moves forward in the operation only with active	 Can place sutures with direction Examples in laparoscopic cholecystectomy: Establishes pneumoperitoneum
direction Level 2 Inconsistently demonstrates careful	Places trocars with direction Operates the camera Examples in laparoscopic cholecystectomy:
tissue handling Identifies appropriate plane but requires	 Appropriately places trocars without direction Dissects Calot's Triangle with direction Identifies plane to remove gallbladder from liver bed with occasional straying off plane
redirection to maintain dissection in the optimal tissue plane Moves forward in the operation but requires	o identifies plane to remove galibladder from liver bed with occasional straying on plane
prompting to complete the operation	
Level 3 Consistently demonstrates careful tissue handling Visualizes tissue plane, identifies and dissects relevant normal anatomy	 Examples in laparoscopic cholecystectomy: Dissects Calot's Triangle to critical view of safety without direction Removes gallbladder from liver bed without injuring either structure Moves between steps of the procedure with minimal direction
Moves fluidly through the course of the operation and anticipates next steps	
Level 4 Adapts tissue handling based on tissue quality	 Examples in laparoscopic cholecystectomy: Recognizes aberrant biliary anatomy and adapts dissection without direction Adapts tissue handling for acute/gangrenous cholecystitis
Visualizes tissue plane, identifies and dissects relevant abnormal anatomy	

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Adapts to unexpected findings and events	
during the course of the operation	
Level 5 Identifies innovative operative techniques, instrumentation, operative approaches, or significant improvement in established techniques	Brings natural operative approach to his or her institution
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	End of rotation evaluation
	Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery/Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery
	Simulation
	Video review
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	Laparoscopic cholecystectomy and inguinal hernia are used as examples. The same concepts should be applied to a variety of operations

Patient Care 4: Post-Operative Patient Care	
Overall Intent: To ensure progressive development of recognition and evaluation and management of post-operative patients	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Evaluates simple post-operative problems (e.g., fever, bleeding, hypotension, oliguria)	 Evaluates and manages post-operative pain Evaluates post-operative hypertension
Manages routine post-operative course for a common operation (e.g., hernia, cholecystectomy, appendectomy)	Manages blood glucose Manages fluid and electrolyte needs
Level 2 Evaluates complex post-operative problems (e.g., sepsis, anastomotic leak)	Evaluates respiratory insufficiency
Manages simple post-operative problems	 Manages hemorrhagic shock Manages surgical site infection Manages post-operative urinary tract infection
Level 3 Evaluates complex post-operative problems in complex patient (e.g., renal failure, congestive heart failure, cirrhosis)	Evaluates bronchospasm in patient with chronic pulmonary disease
Manages routine post-operative course for a complex operation (e.g., Whipple, esophagectomy)	 Manages oliguria and hypotension in patient with clinostatic hypertension Manages post-major hepatic resection patient
Level 4 Anticipates and mitigates post-operative problems in complex patients	 Prioritizes care for multiply injured patient Anticipates and mitigate multiple organ failures
Manages complex post-operative problems	Manages high output enterocutaneous (EC) fistula in malnourished patient
Level 5 Develops a clinical pathway or guideline for management of complex post-operative problems	 Develops clinical pathway for hemobilia Develops clinical pathway for EC fistula
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observationEnd of rotation evaluationSimulation
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	SCORE modulesAmerican College of Surgeons (ACS) Fundamentals of Surgery Curriculum

Medical Knowledge 1: Pathophysiology and Treatment Overall Intent: To ensure the resident demonstrates progressive knowledge of pathophysiology and treatment of surgical conditions	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of pathophysiology and treatments of patients with common surgical conditions	Demonstrates knowledge of pathophysiology and treatment of patients with:
Level 2 Demonstrates knowledge of pathophysiology and treatments of patients with complex surgical conditions	Demonstrates knowledge of pathophysiology and treatment of patients with:
Level 3 Demonstrates knowledge of the impact of patient factors on pathophysiology and the treatment of patients with surgical conditions	Demonstrates knowledge of the impact of the following patient factors on the pathophysiology and treatment of surgical conditions:
Level 4 Demonstrates comprehensive knowledge of the varying patterns of disease presentation and alternative and adjuvant treatments of patients with surgical conditions Level 5 Contributes to peer-reviewed literature	Demonstrates knowledge of the pathophysiology and treatment of:
on the varying patterns of disease presentation, and alternative and adjuvant treatments of patients with surgical conditions	 Designs clinical trial Contributes patients to clinical trials Develops electronic educational module
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation End of rotation evaluation In-Training Examination Mock orals Morbidity and mortality conference Multiple choice knowledge tests
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) and ABS question writing resources

Medical Knowledge 2: Anatomy	
Overall Intent: To ensure the progressive development of knowledge including normal and variant anatomy pertinent to completing	
operations and procedures	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Identifies normal anatomy (e.g., inguinal	Identifies Calot's Triangle
canal) during common operations	Identifies appendiceal artery
Articulates the steps of common operations	Describes the steps of laparoscopic cholecystectomy
· · ·	Describes the steps of breast biopsy
	Describes the steps of bowel resection
Level 2 Identifies variations in anatomy (e.g.,	Identifies retrocecal appendix
bile duct anatomic variations) during common	Identifies non-recurrent laryngeal nerve
operations	
Articulates the implications of varying anatomy	Describes variations in port placement to facilitate dissection of retrocecal appendix
on the steps of common operations	Describes change in dissection for thyroidectomy when a non-recurrent laryngeal nerve is suspected
Level 3 Identifies normal anatomy (e.g., gastric	Identifies pancreatic vascular supply
blood supply) during complex operations	Identifies ductal and vascular anatomy of liver
Authoritation than a town of a consultation and a consultation	Identifies abdominal wall anatomy during separation of components
Articulates the steps of complex operations	Identifies vascular and lymphatic supply of the rectum
	Describes the steps of a low anterior resection
	Describes the steps of a distal pancreatectomy/splenectomy
Level 4 Identifies variations in anatomy (e.g.,	Identifies replaced right hepatic artery during hepatobiliary surgery
replaced right hepatic artery) during complex operations	
operations	
Articulates the implications of varying anatomy	Describes modifications to operative approach during a hepatic resection in the presence
on the steps of complex operations	of a replaced right hepatic artery
Level 5 Develops simulation models for	The resident creates a curriculum for medical students and junior residents for central line
teaching anatomy and operations	placement
Leads anatomy instruction for students and co-	
residents Assessment Models or Tools	
Assessment woders of Tools	Direct observation
	• In-training exam
	Simulation

Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	SCORE Portal
	ACS Cinemed videos

	Surgery Supplemental Guide	
Systems-Based Practice 1: Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Overall Intent: To demonstrate the ability to engage in the analysis and management of patient safety events, including relevant communication with patients, families, and health care professionals as well as to conduct a QI project		
Milestones	Examples	
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of common patient safety events	Has basic knowledge of patient safety events, reporting pathways, and QI strategies, but has not yet participated in any such activities	
Demonstrates knowledge of how to report patient safety events		
Demonstrates knowledge of basic quality improvement methodologies and metrics		
Level 2 Identifies system factors that lead to patient safety events	Has identified and reported a patient safety issue (real or simulated), along with system factors contributing to that issue	
Reports patient safety events through institutional reporting systems (simulated or actual)	Can name improvement initiatives within his or her institution	
Describes local quality improvement initiatives (e.g., infection rate, hand hygiene, opioid use)		
Level 3 Participates in analysis of patient safety events (simulated or actual)	Has reviewed a patient safety event (e.g., preparing for morbidity and mortality presentations, joining a root cause analysis group)	
Participates in disclosure of patient safety events to patients and families (simulated or actual)	Has participated in discussions with patients and/or families about such an event	
Participates in local quality improvement initiatives	 Has participated in a QI project, though he or she may not have yet designed a QI project Has participated in a hospital or departmental QI Committee 	
Level 4 Conducts analysis of patient safety events and offers error prevention strategies (simulated or actual)	Collaborates with a team to lead the analysis of a patient safety event	
Discloses patient safety events to patients and families (simulated or actual)	Communicate with patients/families about those events in actual or simulated situations	

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Demonstrates the skills required to identify,	Has initiated and completed a QI project, including communication with stakeholders
develop, implement, and analyze a quality	
improvement project	
Level 5 Actively engages teams and processes	Assumes a leadership role at the departmental or institutional level for patient safety
to modify systems to prevent patient safety events	and/or QI initiatives, possibly even being the person to initiate action or call attention to the need for action
Mentors others in the disclosure of patient safety	
events	
overne .	
Creates, implements, and assesses quality	
improvement initiatives at the institutional or	
community level	
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	E-learning module with assessment
	Medical record (chart) audit
	Morbidity and mortality conference Partialis
	Portfolio
	Reflection
	Simulation
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	Institute of Healthcare Improvement website and modules
	(http://www.ihi.org/Pages/default.aspx) which includes multiple choice tests, reflective
	writing samples, and more
	ACS Quality In-Training Initiative (QITI) program

Surgery Supplemental Guide Systems-Based	Practice 2: System Navigation for Patient-Centered Care
Overall Intent: To effectively navigate the health care system, including the interdisciplinary team and other care providers, to adapt care to	
a specific patient population to ensure high-quality patient outcomes	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of care coordination	Identifies the members of the interprofessional team and describes their roles but is not yet routinely using team members or accessing resources
Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in routine clinical situations	 Lists the essential components of an effective hand-offs of care Identifies components of social determinants of health and how they impact the delivery of patient care
Level 2 Coordinates multidisciplinary care of patients in routine clinical situations (e.g., dressing change)	 Contacts interprofessional team members, such as social workers and consultants, but requires supervision to ensure all necessary referrals are made and resource needs are arranged
Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in complex clinical situations	 Able to hand off care for ICU patients using systems approach Knows which patients are at high risk for poor health outcomes due to health literacy concerns, cost, language barrier, etc.
Level 3 Coordinates and/or leads multidisciplinary care of patients in complex clinical situations (e.g., home parenteral nutrition, postoperative intravenous feeding, intensive care unit)	For poly trauma patient, the resident arranges for a nutritionist, occupational therapy/physical therapy, and follow-up appointments
Supervises safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs of junior residents	Leads the team in transition of care and hand-offs of care during trauma and emergency surgery
Level 4 Coordinates care of patients with barriers to health care access (e.g., trauma patient with no access to care) or other disparities in care	Directs post-hospital care of homeless person with complex surgical illness such as perforated viscus with post-ICU syndrome
Resolves conflicts in transitions of care between teams	 Proactively calls the primary care provider to ensure a discharged patient can get their international normalized ratio checks, provides efficient handoff of care to the ICU team at the end of a rapid response event, coordinates and prioritizes consultant input for a new high-risk diagnosis (such as malignancy) to ensure the patient gets appropriate follow up Resolves conflicts between teams for operative prioritization in a multiply injured patient

Level 5 Leads in the design and implementation	 Takes a leadership role in designing and implementing changes to improve the care
of improvements to care coordination	coordination process
	Creates innovative hand-off of care tools
Leads in the design and implementation of	Designs a social determinants of health curriculum to help others learn to identify local
improvements to transitions of care	resources and barriers to care; effectively uses resources, such as telehealth, for
	proactive outreach to prevent emergency department visits or re-admission for high-risk
	populations
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
Assessment would of Tools	
	Multisource feedback
	 Review of hand-off of care tools, use of checklists between units, from the operating
	room to peri-/post-operative care, or from the emergency department to an inpatient unit
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. https://www.ahrq.gov/
	• Team STEPS/I PASS

Surgery Supplemental Guide Systems-Based Practice 3: Physician Role in Health Care Systems	
Overall Intent: To understand the surgeon's role in the complex health care system and how to optimize the system to improve patient care and the health system's performance	
Level 1 Describes basic health payment systems, including government, private, public, and uninsured care as well as different practice models	Describes payment systems, such as Medicare, Medicaid, the VA, and commercial third-party payers, and practice models (e.g., patient-centered medical home, Accountable Care Organization)
Describes the key components of documentation for billing and coding	Describes elements necessary for appropriate coding in compliance with regulations
Level 2 Describes how working within the health care system impacts patient care	Understands how improving patient satisfaction improves patient adherence and remuneration to the health system
Documents the key components required for billing and coding	 Applies knowledge of health plan features, including formularies and network requirements, in patient care situations Completes a note following a routine patient encounter with appropriate coding and billing
	elements in compliance with regulations
Level 3 Analyzes how personal practice affects the system (e.g., length of stay, readmission rates, clinical efficiency)	 Understands, accesses, and analyzes their own individual performance data; relevant data may include: National Surgical Quality Improvement Program data
Describes basic elements needed to transition to practice (e.g., contract negotiations,	 patient satisfaction data percentage of patients the resident intubated had an appropriate "ventilator bundle" implemented
malpractice insurance, government regulation, compliance, Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act)	 procedure-specific cost/charge data Understands process of contract negotiations, choosing malpractice insurance carriers and features, and reporting requirements for Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA)/Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)
Level 4 Use shared decision making in patient care, taking into consideration costs to the patient	 Works collaboratively with patients to choose mastectomy versus breast conservation therapy, taking into account patient choice and ability to access x-ray therapy Works collaboratively with patients to choose antireflux procedure versus lifelong proton pump inhibitors
Identifies resources and effectively plans for transition to practice (e.g., information technology, legal, billing and coding, financial, personnel)	Applies knowledge of contract negotiations, choosing malpractice insurance carriers and features, and reporting requirements for MACRA/MIPS
Level 5 Advocates or leads change to enhance systems for high-value, efficient, and effective patient care	 Develops processes to decrease opioid prescribing for one or more clinical services Incorporates e-consults into the electronic health record (EHR)

Participates in advocacy activities for health policy Assessment Models or Tools	 Works with community or professional organizations to advocate for colorectal cancer screening Improves informed consent process for non-English speaking patients requiring interpreter services Direct observation Medical record (chart) audit Multiple choice test Multisource feedback
Cuminulum Monning	Quality Improvement project
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The Merit-based Incentive Payment System: Advancing Care Information and Improvement Activities Performance Categories. December 2016 https://www.ahrg.gov/professionals/Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/MIPS-ACI-and-IA-presentation.pdf Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The Challenges of Measuring Physician Quality. https://www.ahrg.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/talkingquality/create/physician/measurementsets.html 2018. The Kaiser Family Foundation. Topics include health reform, health costs, Medicare, Medicare, private insurance, uninsured: www.kff.org and http://kff.org/health-reform/ 2019. The National Academy for Medicine, Dzau VJ, McClellan M, Burke S, et al. Vital directions for health and health care: priorities from a National Academy of Medicine Initiative. https://nam.edu/vital-directions-for-health-health-care-priorities-from-a-national-academy-of-medicine-initiative/ March 21, 2017. The National Academy for Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine). Vital directions for
	 health and health care: a policy initiative of the National Academy for Medicine. https://nam.edu/initiatives/vital-directions-for-health-and-health-care/ 2018. The Commonwealth Fund. Health system data center. 2017. http://datacenter.commonwealthfund.org/?_ga=2.110888517.1505146611.1495417431-1811932185.1495417431#ind=1/sc=1 The Commonwealth Fun. Health reform resource center: http://www.commonwealthfund.org/interactives-and-data/health-reform-resource-

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bility]

Surgery Supplemental Guide	
Practice-Based Learning and Improvement 1: Evidence-Based and Informed Practice Overall Intent: To incorporate evidence and patient values into clinical practice	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates how to access and use available evidence, and incorporate patient preferences and values into the care of a routine patient	Performs a literature review on non-operative management of appendicitis for a patient who does not desire an operation
Level 2 Articulates clinical questions and elicits patient preferences and values in order to guide evidence-based care	 A patient with Hinchey class 3 diverticulitis voices a preference against an ostomy, and the resident performs a targeted literature review looking at outcomes for different treatment approaches to this specific population
Level 3 Locates and applies the best available evidence, integrated with patient preference, to the care of complex patients	 Performs a literature review for non-operative management of breast cancer in an octogenarian female with multiple comorbidities with an estrogen receptor- and progesterone receptor-positive (ER/PR+) tumor who does not desire surgery Applies evidence-based clinical guidelines to consider treatment options for a patient with hepatocellular carcinoma and advanced cirrhosis
Level 4 Critically appraises and applies evidence, even in the face of uncertain and/or conflicting evidence, to guide care, tailored to the individual patient	 Presents a series of research articles on the controversial topic of steroid use in the management of sepsis in a septic patient Presents a review of available evidence to a tumor board to discuss the modality of endoscopic mucosal resection in a patient with gastric cancer
Level 5 Coaches others to critically appraise and apply evidence for complex patients; and/or participates in the development of guidelines	Presents a review of available evidence to a hospital guidelines committee to advocate for the use of thromboelastogram in the management of lower gastrointestinal bleed
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observationMultisource feedback
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 The ABIM Foundation. Choosing Wisely. http://www.choosingwisely.org/ 2019. Johns Hopkins University Guided Care. Comprehensive primary care for complex patients. http://www.guidedcare.org/module-listing.asp American College of Physicians. High value care. https://hvc.acponline.org/ Costs of Care https://www.costsofcare.org/ Dartmouth-Hitchcock. Center for shared decision making. https://med.dartmouth.hitchcock.org/csdm_toolkits.html

Surgery Supplemental Guide Practice Based Learning and Improvement 3: Beflective Breatice and Commitment to Baroonal Crowth	
Practice-Based Learning and Improvement 2: Reflective Practice and Commitment to Personal Growth Overall Intent: To become a lifelong learner and integrate outcomes into practice and develop clear objectives and goals for improvement in	
some form of a learning plan	a mograte decomes into precise and develop clear objectives and goals for improvement in
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Establishes goals for personal and	Identifies need to improve through self-reflection
professional development	Seeks ways to improve
Level 2 Identifies opportunities for performance	• Recognizes issues with closing complex wounds and schedules more time in the skills lab
improvement; designs a learning plan	Identifies low ABSITE score below their expectation and creates a study plan
Level 3 Integrates performance feedback and	Goes to the skills lab to improve identified technical skills deficits and seeks additional
practice data to develop and implement a	feedback
learning plan	Meets with a mentor in an ongoing basis to maintain preparation for ABSITE
Level 4 Revises learning plan based on	Changes previous study plan if ABSITE score did not improve
performance data	Seeks a new area for learning if previous plan is completed successfully, such as
	perfecting hand-sewn bowel anastomosis or improving cross cultural communication
	Improves complex wound closure but continues to practice additional techniques based
Land Constant of the decimand	on self-reflection and feedback
Level 5 Coaches others in the design and implementation of learning plans	• Leads sessions and coaches residents that are struggling on study techniques to improve ABSITE score
Implementation of learning plans	 Independently identifies and coaches residents struggling with technical skills
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
7.63633Ment Wodels of Tools	Mentor/coach evaluation of learning plan
	Multisource feedback
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	Hojat M, Veloski JJ, Gonnella JS. Measurement and correlates of physicians' lifelong
	learning. Acad Med. 2009. Aug;84(8):1066-74. Contains a validated questionnaire about
	physician lifelong learning.
	• Lockspeiser TM, Schmitter PA, Lane JL et al. Assessing Fellows' Written Learning Goals
	and Goal Writing Skill: Validity Evidence for the Learning Goal Scoring Rubric. Academic Medicine 2013. 88 (10)
	Burke AE, Benson B, Englander R, Carraccio C, Hicks PJ. Domain of competence: practice-based learning and improvement. <i>Acad Pediatr.</i> 2014;14: S38-S54.

Professionalism 1: Ethical Principles	
Overall Intent: To recognize basic ethical principles and applies in daily practice, and use appropriate resources for managing ethical	
dilemmas	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of the ethical principles underlying informed consent, surrogate decision making, advance directives, confidentiality, error disclosure, stewardship of limited resources, and related topics	 Discusses the basic principles underlying ethics (beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice, autonomy) and professionalism (professional values and commitments), and how they apply in various situations (e.g., informed consent process) Lists elements of informed consent for procedures
Level 2 Analyzes straightforward situations	Identifies surrogate for impaired patients
using ethical principles	Maintains patient confidentiality in public situations
Level 3 Recognizes need to seek help in managing and resolving complex ethical situations	 Obtains institutional guidance on obtaining consent for blood transfusion in pediatric Jehovah's Witness patient Analyzes difficult real or hypothetical ethics case scenarios or situations, recognizes own limitations
Level 4 Recognizes and uses appropriate resources for managing and resolving ethical dilemmas, as needed (e.g., ethics consultations, literature review, risk management/legal consultation)	 Manages a near miss or sentinel event (e.g., getting risk management, legal consultations) Identifies ethical dilemmas of performing procedures in patients who are potential organ donors Recognizes and manages situations of medical futility
Level 5 Identifies and seeks to address system- level factors that induce or exacerbate ethical problems or impede their resolution	Identifies and seeks to address system-wide factors or barriers to promoting a culture of ethical behavior through participation in a work group, committee, or taskforce (e.g., ethics committee or an ethics sub-committee, risk management committee, root cause analysis review, patient safety or satisfaction committee, professionalism work group, Institutional Review Board, resident grievance committee)
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Global evaluation Multisource feedback Oral or written self-reflection (e.g., of a personal or observed lapse, ethical dilemma, or systems-level factors) OSCE Simulation
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	American Medical Association Code of Ethics. https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/ama-code-medical-ethics 2019.

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	American College of Surgeons. Code of Professional Conduct https://www.facs.org/about-
	acs/statements/stonprin#code 2003.
	Ethical Issues in Clinical Surgery (ACS)
	SCORE Modules

Surgery Supplemental Guide Professionalism 2: Professional Behavior and Accountability	
Overall Intent: To take responsibility for their actions and the impact on patients and other members of the health care team and recognize	
limits of one's own knowledge and skill Milestones Examples	
Level 1 Completes patient care tasks and	Completes routine discharge process
responsibilities, identifies potential barriers, and describes strategies for ensuring timely task completion	Sees transfer patient and completes admit orders in a timely manner
Describes when and how to appropriately report lapses in professional behavior	Knows how to report unprofessional behavior at their institution
Recognizes limits in the knowledge/skills of self and seeks help	Asks for help to place nasogastric tube if uncomfortable with procedure
Level 2 Performs patient care tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with appropriate attention to detail in routine situations	Consents patient and schedules appendectomy
Takes responsibility for his or her own professional behavior	Apologizes to team member(s) for unprofessional behavior without prompting
Recognizes limits in the knowledge/skills of team and seeks help	Recognizes inadequate glycemic control despite multiple adjustments of medication regimen and requests diabetes management consult
Level 3 Performs patient care tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with appropriate attention to detail in complex or stressful situations	Counsels angry patient with complaints about care team while having multiple other clinical responsibilities
Demonstrates professional behavior in complex or stressful situations	 Asks for help after attempting central line twice without success Asks for help when unable to identify critical view of safety
Exhibits appropriate confidence and self- awareness of limits in knowledge/skills	Asks for help leading family meeting where withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment will be discussed
Level 4 Recognizes situations that may impact others' ability to complete patient-care tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner	 Adjusts junior resident schedule to allow work hour compliance Encourages junior residents to use well-being days

Notes or Resources	 American College of Surgeons. Code of Professional Conduct https://www.facs.org/about-acs/statements/stonprin#code 2003. Code of conduct from institutional manual
Curriculum Mapping	
	Simulation
	Self-evaluations
	Multisource feedback
	Direct observation
Assessment Models or Tools	Compliance with deadlines and timelines
Coaches others when their behavior fails to meet professional expectations	Coaches others on how to avoid conflict with team members
and responsibilities	
ability to efficiently complete patient-care tasks	Oets up a meeting with the hurse manager to streamline patient discharges
Level 5 Develops systems to enhance other's	Sets up a meeting with the nurse manager to streamline patient discharges
Aids junior learners in recognition of limits in knowledge/skills	 Puts on gown and gloves to help junior resident struggling to place chest tube
Appropriately reports lapses in professional behavior (simulated or actual)	Reports student harassment to appropriate institutional official
Intervenes to prevent and correct lapses in professional behavior in self and others	Asks another team member to perform tasks when fatigued

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Professionalism 3: Administrative Tasks		
Overall Intent: To ensure the resident develops the skills and behaviors required to complete the administrative duties of being a surgeon,		
such as clinical work and education hours, Case Logs, evaluations, discharge summaries, operative reports, daily progress notes,		
conference/meeting attendance, etc.		
Milestones	Examples	
Level 1 Takes responsibility for failure to	The program director identifies a resident who has failed to concurrently log cases	
complete administrative tasks and	Acknowledges that he or she has failed to allocate time specifically for this administrative	
responsibilities, identifies potential contributing	duty	
factors, and describes strategies for ensuring	Creates a plan to log all cases at the end of every day	
timely task completion in the future		
Level 2 Performs administrative tasks and	Logs clinical and educational work hours and Case Logs regularly	
responsibilities in a timely manner with	Completes operative report or discharge summary dictation promptly	
appropriate attention to detail in routine		
situations		
Level 3 Performs administrative tasks and	When on a busy service, continues to log clinical and educational work hours and cases	
responsibilities in a timely manner with	without interruption	
appropriate attention to detail in complex or stressful situations	Completes timely evaluations while having multiple clinical responsibilities	
Level 4 Recognizes situations that may impact	. A register turb a han planned to attend a wadding in the family makes the appropriate	
others' ability to complete administrative tasks	A resident who has planned to attend a wedding in the family makes the appropriate changes in the call schedule to avoid service interruptions	
and responsibilities in a timely manner	changes in the can schedule to avoid service interruptions	
Level 5 Develops systems to enhance other's	Works with the hospital information technology department to develop a resident shared	
ability to efficiently complete administrative tasks	file directory to facilitate resident completion of administrative requirements such as call	
and responsibilities	schedule distribution, transition of patient care documents, etc.	
Assessment Models or Tools	Case Logs	
	Clinical and educational work hours logs	
	Conference attendance logs	
	Evaluation compliance	
	Program director's reports documenting compliance with administrative requirements	
Curriculum Mapping	•	
Notes or Resources	ACGME Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education in General Surgery	
	https://www.acgme.org/Specialties/Program-Requirements-and-FAQs-and-	
	Applications/pfcatid/24/Surgery	
	- The state of the	

Professionalism 4: Self-Awareness and Help-Seeking Overall Intent: To identify, use, manage, improve, and seek help for personal and professional well-being for self and others	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Identifies the institutional resources available to manage personal, physical, and emotional health (e.g., acute and chronic disease, substance abuse, and mental health problems)	 Completes e-learning modules (or other modality) related to fatigue management Shows how to access an institutional crisis line
Demonstrates knowledge of the principles of physician well-being and fatigue mitigation	Requests time off for medical or dental appointment
Level 2 Monitors his or her own personal health and wellness and appropriately mitigates fatigue and/or stress	Recognizes when they are approaching clinical and educational work hour limits and develops a plan to ensure both compliance and fatigue mitigation
Manages his or her own time and assures fitness for duty	Has a regular exercise program
Level 3 Promotes healthy habits and creates an emotionally healthy environment for colleagues	Ensures junior residents leave the hospital at an appropriate time
Models appropriate management of personal health issues, fatigue, and stress	Stays home when ill and communicates with team
Level 4 Recognizes and appropriately addresses signs and symptoms of burnout, depression, suicidal ideation, potential for violence, and/or substance abuse in other members of the health care team	Brings concerns about other team members to the program director
Proactively modifies schedules or intervenes in other ways to assure that those caregivers under his or her supervision maintain personal wellness and do not compromise patient safety (e.g., requires naps, counsels, refers to services, reports to program director)	Arranges for a resident to take a day off if they are fatigued and/or approaching clinical and educational work hour limits

Level 5 Coaches others when emotional responses or limitations in knowledge/skills do not meet professional expectations	 Leads a mindfulness program with residents Organizes program activities to improve well-being
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Group interview or discussions for team activities Individual interview Institutional online training modules Participation in institutional well-being programs Self-assessment and personal learning plan
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Local resources, including Employee Assistance Programs ACGME Physician Well-Being Tools and Resources https://www.acgme.org/What-We-Do/Initiatives/Physician-Well-Being/Resources National Academy of Medicine. Clinician resilience and well-being https://nam.edu/initiatives/clinician-resilience-and-well-being/

Surgery Supplemental Guide		
Interpersonal and Communication Skills 1: Patient and Family-Centered Communication		
Overall Intent: To deliberately use language and behaviors to form a therapeutic relationship with a patient and his or her family; to identify		
communication barriers, including self-reflection on personal biases, and minimize them in the doctor-patient relationship; organize and lead		
communication around shared decision-making		
Milestones	Examples	
Level 1 Communicates with patients and their	Self-monitors and controls tone, non-verbal responses, and language and asks questions	
families in an understandable and respectful	to invite the patient's participation	
manner	• Accurately communicates their role in the health care system to patients and families, and identifies common communication barriers (e.g., loss of hearing, language, aphasia) in	
Provides timely updates to patients and families	patient and family encounters	
	Communicates with patients and patients' families on changing conditions	
	• Provides patients with routine information, such as wrist x-ray obtained earlier in the day is	
	normal, hematocrit is stable, etc.	
Level 2 Customizes communication, in the	• Identifies complex communication barriers (e.g., culture, religious beliefs, health literacy)	
setting of personal biases and barriers (e.g.,	in patient and family encounters	
age, literacy, cognitive disabilities, cultural		
differences) with patients and families		
Activaly listana to nationts and familias to aligit		
Actively listens to patients and families to elicit	Leads a discussion about acute pain management with the patient and the family,	
patient preferences and expectations	reassessing the patient's and family's understanding and anxiety	
Level 3 Delivers complex and difficult information to patients and families	Establishes and maintains a therapeutic relationship with a challenging patient (e.g., angry, non-compliant, substance seeking, mentally challenged)	
,	Attempts to mitigate identified communication barriers, including reflection on implicit	
Uses shared decision making to make a	biases (e.g., preconceived ideas about patients of certain race or weight) when prompted	
personalized care plan	Acknowledges uncertainty in a patient's medical complexity and prognosis	
	• Independently engages in shared decision making with the patient and family, including a	
	recommended acute pain management plan to align a patient's unique goals with	
	treatment options	
Level 4 Facilitates difficult discussions specific	Facilitates family conference when family members disagree about the goals of care	
to patient and family conferences, (e.g., end-of-		
life, explaining complications, therapeutic		
uncertainty)		
Effectively negotiates and manages conflict	. Negotietee eere management plan when interpretiens will be madically ineffective	
among patients, families, and the health care	Negotiates care management plan when interventions will be medically ineffective	
team		
tourn		

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Level 5 Coaches others in the facilitation of	Mentors/coaches and supports colleagues in self-awareness and reflection to improve
crucial conversations	therapeutic relationships with patients
Conclusion of the war in a conflict was a letter	
Coaches others in conflict resolution	Creates a curriculum to teach conflict resolution in family conferences
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	Kalamazoo Essential Elements Communication Checklist (Adapted)
	Mini-clinical evaluation exercise
	Multisource feedback
	Self-assessment including self-reflection exercises
	Standardized patients or structured case discussions
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Laidlaw A, Hart J. Communication skills: an essential component of medical curricula. Part I: Assessment of clinical communication: AMEE Guide No. 51. <i>Med Teach</i>. 2011;33(1):6-8.
	 Makoul G. Essential elements of communication in medical encounters: the Kalamazoo consensus statement. Acad Med. 2001;76:390-393.
	Makoul G. The SEGUE Framework for teaching and assessing communication skills. Patient Educ Couns. 2001;45(1):23-34.
	 O'Sullivan P, Chao S, Russell M, Levine S, Fabiny A. Development and implementation of an objective structured clinical examination to provide formative feedback on communication and interpersonal skills in geriatric training. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2008;56(9):1730-5.
	• Symons AB, Swanson A, McGuigan D, Orrange S, Akl EA. A tool for self-assessment of communication skills and professionalism in fellows. <i>BMC Med Educ.</i> 2009; 9:1.
	American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine: Hospice and Palliative Medicine Competencies Project. http://aahpm.org/fellowships/competencies#competencies-toolkit accessed June 6, 2017.
	Team STEPS
	SCORE modules
	American College of Surgeons. Communicating with patients about surgical errors and
	adverse outcomes. https://web4.facs.org/ebusiness/ProductCatalog/product.aspx?ID=229
	American College of Surgeons. Disclosing surgical error vignettes.
	https://web4.facs.org/ebusiness/ProductCatalog/product.aspx?ID=157
	Baile WF, Buckman R, Lenzi R, et al. SPIKES - a six-step protocol for delivering bad news: application to the patient with cancer. <i>Oncologist</i> . 2000;5:302-311.

Surgery Supplemental Guide		
Interpersonal and Communication Skills 2: Interprofessional and Team Communication		
Overall Intent: To effectively communicate with the health care team, including with consultants, in both straightforward and complex situations		
Milestones	Examples	
Level 1 Respectfully requests and receives a	Allows others to express their opinions	
consultation	Politely accepts requests for consult in the emergency department and thanks the department for the consult	
Uses language that values all members of the health care team	Consistently uses inclusive language	
Level 2 Clearly and concisely requests and responds to a consultation	Informs consult service of the recommendation	
Communicates information effectively with all health care team members	Asks diabetes management for help with glucose control in brittle diabetic	
Solicits feedback on performance as a member of the health care team	Specifies urgency of consult request	
Level 3 Verifies understanding of recommendations when providing or receiving a consultation	Uses closed-loop communications and restating to verify emergency department understands plan for admission to surgical service and operation	
Uses active listening to adapt communication style to fit team needs	Demonstrates active listening by asking team members about their concerns and questions during patient rounds	
Communicates concerns and provides feedback to peers and learners	Respectfully provides feedback to medical students about their presentations during morning rounds	
Level 4 Coordinates recommendations from different members of the health care team to optimize patient care, resolving conflict when needed	Leads a complex trauma resuscitation, using closed-loop communication, to ensure each patient care task is assigned and completed	
Maintains effective communication in crisis situation	Provides feedback to faculty members when expectations are not clear (e.g., coverage in clinic or operating room)	
Communicates constructive feedback to superiors		

Level 5 Coaches flexible communication strategies that value input from all health care team members	Identifies then mentors/coaches junior resident to improve communication skills within the team
Facilitates regular health care team-based feedback in complex situations	Leads a team debrief after a patient death
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Multisource feedback Simulated encounters Standardized patient encounters or OSCE
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Mills P, Neily J, Dunn E. Teamwork and communication in surgical teams: implications for patient safety. <i>JACS</i>. 206;107-112:2008 Team training courses Non-technical training skills for surgeons. NOTSS. https://www.notss.org

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 3: Communication within Health Care Systems Overall Intent: To develop skills and behaviors that allows the resident to communicate effectively within the context of a health care system **Milestones Examples** Level 1 Accurately records information in the • Fills in all elements of a documentation template with the most up-to-date information patient record, including appropriate use of available documentation templates Level 2 Demonstrates efficient use of electronic Creates accurate, original notes that do not contain extraneous information such as medical record to communicate with the health verbatim transcriptions of radiology reports, and concisely summarizes the assessment care team and plan Level 3 Integrates and synthesizes all relevant • Collects information from outside health care systems and then accurately and succinctly data from outside systems and prior encounters incorporates that information into the EHR into the health record **Level 4** Appropriately selects form and urgency • Calls the attending in the middle of the night when the patient has an emergent change in of communication based on context clinical status • Texts attending with change in operating room schedule **Level 5** Guides departmental or institutional • Mentors/coaches colleagues how to improve clinical notes, including terminology, billing communication around policies and procedures compliance, conciseness, and inclusion of all required elements Creates a policy around HIPAA compliant electronic communication (e.g., texting) Assessment Models or Tools Chart stimulated recall Direct observation Medical record (chart) audit Multisource feedback **Curriculum Mapping** Notes or Resources • Bierman JA, Hufmeyer KK, Liss DT, Weaver AC, Heiman HL. Promoting responsible electronic documentation: validity evidence for a checklist to assess progress notes in the electronic health record. Teach Learn Med. 2017 Oct-Dec;29(4):420-432. • U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Health information privacy. HHS.gov/hipaa

In an effort to aid programs in the transition to using the new version of the Milestones, we have mapped the original Milestones 1.0 to the new Milestones 2.0. Below we have indicated where the subcompetencies are similar between versions. These are not necessarily exact matches, but are areas that include some of the same elements. Note that not all subcompetencies map between versions. Inclusion or exclusion of any subcompetency does not change the educational value or impact on curriculum or assessment.

Milestones 1.0	Milestones 2.0
PC1: Care For Diseases and Conditions (CDC)	PC1: Patient Evaluation and Decision Making
PC2: Care For Diseases and Conditions (CDC)	PC4: Post-Operative Patient Care
PC3: Performance of Operations and Procedures (POP)	PC2: Intra-Operative Patient Care – Performance of Procedures
	PC3: Intra-Operative Patient Care – Technical Skills
MK1: Care For Diseases and Conditions (CDC)	MK1: Pathophysiology and Treatment
MK2: Performance of Operations and Procedures (POP)	MK2: Anatomy
SBP1: Coordination of Care (CC)	SBP2: System Navigation for Patient-Centered Care
SBP2: Improvement of Care (IC)	SBP1: Patient Safety and Quality Improvement
None	SBP3: Physician Role in Health Care Systems
PBLI1: Teaching (TCH)	PC2: Intra-Operative Patient Care – Performance of Procedures
	PBLI2: Reflective Practice and Commitment to Personal Growth
	ICS2: Interprofessional and Team Communication
PBLI2: Self-directed Learning (SDL)	PBLI1: Evidence-Based and Informed Practice
	and
	PBLI2: Reflective Practice and Commitment to Personal Growth
PBLI3: Improvement of Care (IC)	SBP1: Patient Safety and Quality Improvement
PROF1: Care for Diseases and Conditions (CDC)	PROF1: Ethical Principles
	and
	PROF2: Professional Behavior and Accountability
PROF2: Maintenance of Physical and Emotional Health	PROF4: Self-Awareness and Help-Seeking
(MPEH)	
PROF3: Performance of Assignments and Administrative	PROF3: Administrative Tasks
Tasks (PAT)	
ICS1: Care for Diseases and Conditions (CDC)	ICS1: Patient and Family-Centered Communication
ICS2: Coordination of Care (CC)	ICS2: Interprofessional and Team Communication
ICS3: Performance of Operations and Procedures (POP)	ICS1: Patient and Family-Centered Communication
None	ICS3: Communication within Health Care Systems