

Core Competencies

The University of Houston Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine is dedicated to fostering excellence in medical education through its Continuing Medical Education (CME) programs. Our CME activities are designed to enhance the knowledge, skills, and professional performance of health care providers, ultimately improving patient care outcomes.

To achieve this mission, our CME initiatives are structured around six core competencies, adapted from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). These competencies serve as the foundation for curriculum development, assessment and continuous improvement.

1. Patient Care and Procedural Skills

Health care professionals are to provide compassionate, appropriate, and effective care for health problems and promote patient health. This includes the ability to perform all medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures considered essential for the area of practice.

2. Medical Knowledge

A thorough understanding of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences is essential. Professionals are to apply this knowledge to patient care and the education of others.

3. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Health care providers must be able to investigate and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence and improve their practice of medicine. This involves self-evaluation and the ability to implement changes for better outcomes.

4. Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Effective information exchange and close collaboration with patients, their families and professional associates is crucial. This competency emphasizes the development of listening skills, clear communication and the ability to work collaboratively.

5. Professionalism

Commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population are fundamental. This includes maintaining patient confidentiality, informed consent and professional behavior.

6. Systems-Based Practice

An awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care is necessary. Professionals are to effectively call on system resources to provide optimal care, including understanding healthcare policies, cost awareness and risk-benefit analysis.

By integrating these core competencies into our CME programs, the Fertitta College of Medicine ensures that health care professionals are equipped to meet the evolving challenges of medical practice and deliver high-quality patient care.

For more information or assistance in aligning your CME activities with these competencies, please contact the CME Office at comcme@central.uh.edu.