

# **King's PA Program Competencies**

## **Knowledge for Practice**

- 1.1 Demonstrate critical thinking in clinical situations.
- 1.2 Access and interpret credible sources of medical knowledge.
- 1.3 Formulate appropriate working differential diagnosis for commonly presenting disease symptoms as seen across all aspects of medicine.
- 1.4 Apply principles of epidemiology to identify at risk populations for disease and disease prevention/health promotion.
- 1.5 Discern among acute, chronic, and emerging disease states.
- 1.6 Perform medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures considered essential for the practice specialty.
- 1.7 Develop and implement patient management plans including pharmacologic and nonpharmacologic therapies.

## **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**

- 2.1 Use effective communication skills to develop rapport with patients and families while eliciting and providing information in a culturally competent manner.
- 2.2 Accurately and adequately document medical information regarding care for medical, legal, quality, and financial purposes.
- 2.3 Demonstrate compassion and empathy in difficult conversations with patient and families.
- 2.4 Demonstrate adaptability and flexibility and is receptive to constructive criticism.
- 2.5 Recognize barriers in communication and provide the appropriate resources to patients and families to address these barriers.
- 2.6 Recognize the need for effective, equitable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices.

## **Patient-Centered Care**

- 3.1 Gather essential and accurate information about patients and their conditions through history-taking, physical examination, and the use of laboratory data, imaging, and other tests.
- 3.2 Interpret data to make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions.
- 3.3 Consider chronic conditions, drug interactions and side effects in the utilization of pharmacologic and nonpharmacologic therapies.
- 3.4 Educate patients and their families to enable shared decision-making.
- 3.5 Provide appropriate referral of patients and follow up on patient progress and outcomes.
- 3.6 Provide health care services to patients, families, and communities with the goal of preventing health problems and maintaining health.

## **Interprofessional Collaboration**

- 4.1 Communicate effectively as a member of the health care team to enhance interprofessional collaboration.
- 4.2 Effectively engage the abilities of all available health professionals to develop optimal strategies to enhance patient care.

## **Professionalism and Ethics**

- 5.1 Demonstrate selfless compassion, integrity, and respect for others.
- 5.2 Demonstrate respect for patient privacy and autonomy.
- 5.3 Demonstrate cultural awareness and responsiveness to diverse patient populations.
- 5.4 Demonstrate and apply ethical and legal principles as they relate to patient care and clinical practice.

## **Practice-based Learning and Quality Improvement**

- 6.1 Develop the ability to use self-awareness of knowledge, skills, and emotional limitations to identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in their knowledge and expertise.
- 6.2 Identify, analyze, and implement knowledge guidelines and standards to improve patient outcomes.
- 6.3 Recognize the use and allocation of resources to ensure the practice of cost-effective health care that does not compromise quality of care.

## **Society and Population Health**

- 7.1 Recognize the impact of genetics, as well as socioeconomic, environmental, and other population-level determinants on the health and compliance of the individual and community.
- 7.2 Recognize the health care professional's accountability and responsibility for removing barriers to health.

**Note:** The King's PA Program adapted these competencies which were drawn from three sources: the current Competencies for the PA Profession, PAEA's Core Competencies for New PA Graduates, and the Englander et al article "Toward a common taxonomy of competency domains for the health professions and competencies for physicians".