

# MDCHS PA Competencies

Updated Summer 2023

The Mary Baldwin University PA Program defined its competencies for new graduates utilizing the MSPA Program goals, MBU and MDCHS goals, PAEA PA and New Grad Competencies, AAPA Competencies, AAMC, and the IPEC Competencies, as well as the ARC-PA Standards.

## Domain 1: Medical Knowledge

Description = Graduates will be able to recognize healthy versus ill patients in the context of the patient's lives and determine the stage of illness: acute, at risk of illness (emerging), or chronic. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to utilize up-to-date scientific evidence to inform clinical reasoning and clinical judgment.

**Competency 1.1:** Recognize normal and abnormal health states.

**Competency 1.2:** Access and interpret current and credible sources of medical information.

**Competency 1.3:** Demonstrate investigative and critical thinking in clinical situations.

**Competency 1.4:** Discern among acute, chronic and emergent disease states.

**Competency 1.5:** Apply principles of clinical sciences to diagnose disease and utilize therapeutic decision-making, clinical-problem solving, and other evidence-based practice skills.

**Competency 1.6:** Apply principles of epidemiology in clinical situations.

## Domain 2: Clinical Practice and Patient Care

Description = Graduates will be able to perform the essential components of a clinical encounter in a safe and effective manner utilizing evidence-based practice.

**Competency 2.1:** Gather a patient history inclusive of information relevant to the reason for visit and clinical setting while ensuring patient comfort and privacy.

**Competency 2.2:** Perform a physical exam relevant to the reason for visit and clinical setting while ensuring patient comfort and privacy.

**Competency 2.3:** Perform common office-based and bedside clinical procedures safely.

**Competency 2.4:** Develop treatment plans that appropriately address diagnostic tests, therapeutics, consultations, supportive measures, patient education and follow up plans based on available clinical information and the patient's beliefs about their care.

**Competency 2.5:** Counsel, educate and empower patients and their families to participate in their care and enable shared decision-making.

## Domain 3: Interpersonal Skills and Communication

Description = Graduates will be able to communicate with patients, families and members of the healthcare team as partners who engage in shared decision-making for healthcare and systems management.

**Competency 3.1:** Articulate one's role and responsibilities to patients, families, communities, and other professionals.

**Competency 3.2:** Ensure the patient's needs are the focus over self and others.

**Competency 3.3:** Establish meaningful therapeutic relationships with patients and families to ensure that patients' values and preferences are addressed and that needs and goals are met to deliver person-centered care.

**Competency 3.4:** Demonstrate insight and understanding about emotions and human responses to emotions that allow one to develop and manage interpersonal interactions.

**Competency 3.5:** Communicate effectively with patients, families and the public.

**Competency 3.6:** Document clinical encounters in patient records accurately while adhering to medicolegal standards.

**Competency 3.7:** Communicate patient information effectively with members of the healthcare team.

#### **Domain 4: Interprofessional Practice**

Description = Graduates will be able to engage with a variety of other healthcare professionals in a manner that optimizes safe, effective, patient-and population-centered care.

**Competency 4.1:** Develop relationships and effectively communicate with physicians, other health professionals, and healthcare teams (PA Comp. Comm).

**Competency 4.2:** Use the full scope of knowledge, skills, and abilities of available health professionals to provide care that is safe, timely, efficient, effective, and equitable (IPEC RR5).

#### **Domain 5: Professional Practice**

Description = Graduates will be able to practice medicine in a beneficent manner, recognizing and adhering to standards of care while attuned to advancing social justice.

**Competency 5.1:** Demonstrate accountability to patients, society and the profession.

**Competency 5.2:** Demonstrate compassion, integrity and respect for others.

**Competency 5.3:** Demonstrate and maintain high moral and ethical standards.

**Competency 5.4:** Demonstrate commitment to personal wellness and self-care that supports the provision of quality patient care.

#### **Domain 6: Population Health**

Description = Graduates will be able to recognize and understand that the influences of the larger community may affect the health of patients and integrate knowledge of social determinants of health into care decisions.

**Competency 6.1:** Understand the role of structural disparities in causing illness.

**Competency 6.2:** Provide effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication.

**Competency 6.3:** Describe how professionals in health and other fields can collaborate and integrate clinical care and public health interventions to optimize population health.

#### **Domain 7: Healthcare Systems**

Description = Graduates will be able to articulate the essential aspects of value-based healthcare and apply this understanding to the delivery of safe and quality care.

**Competency 7.1:** Recognize financial implications to the provision of healthcare.

**Competency 7.2:** Exhibit an understanding of the regulatory environment.