

## Urology Milestones

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The Milestones are designed only for use in evaluation of resident physicians in the context of their participation in ACGME-accredited residency or fellowship programs. The Milestones provide a framework for the assessment of the development of the resident physician in key dimensions of the elements of physician competency in a specialty or subspecialty. They neither represent the entirety of the dimensions of the 6 domains of physician competency, nor are they designed to be relevant in any other context.

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TABLE 1 | PCI GATHERS INFORMATION BY INTERVIEWING THE PATIENT OR SURROGATE AND PERFORMING A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Acquires general history from patient and is able to elicit genitourinary complaints Performs an accurate general physical examination	Acquires accurate and relevant history from the patient in an efficiently customized, prioritized, and hypothesis-driven fashion for genitourinary complaints Performs an accurate physical examination that is appropriately targeted to a patient's genitourinary complaints and medical condition	Obtains relevant historical subtleties that inform and prioritize both differential diagnoses and diagnostic plans, including sensitive, complicated, and detailed information that may not often be volunteered by the patient Identifies common genitourinary exam findings routinely but inconsistently is able to identify subtle physical exam findings	Role models gathering subtle and reliable information from the patient for junior members of the health care team, particularly for sensitive aspects of genitourinary conditions Routinely identifies subtle or unusual physical findings pertinent to genitourinary conditions	Highly efficient at gathering information, including history and physical exam
Examples: Obtains basic elements of a complaint, including onset, duration, quality of pain, associated symptoms, exacerbating factors Performs a focused general physical exam	Examples: Obtains routine history for patient newly diagnosed with T1c prostate cancer Performs scrotal/genital examination in adults and identifies common pathology such as hydrocole and testis tumors Identifies physical findings warranting immediate surgical intervention (eg, suspected torsion)	Examples: Obtains history for patient newly diagnosed with prostate cancer, including family history and details of erectile function and urinary continence Performs scrotal/genital examination in adults and children, and identifies common and subtle physical findings	Examples: Obtains history from a patient with metastatic cancer with a past history of definitive treatment for prostate cancer Differentiates retractile versus undescended testis in child	Example: Rapidly focuses on presenting problem; elicits key information in a prioritized, rapid fashion

TABLE 2 | PC2 USES DIAGNOSTIC TESTS AND PROCEDURES, INCLUDING PERFORMANCE AND INTERPRETATION OF IMAGING STUDIES

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Selects and performs appropriate diagnostic tests and/or imaging procedures for general complaints	Selects and performs appropriate diagnostic tests and/or imaging procedures based on patient's genitourinary complaints and medical condition	Selects appropriate routine diagnostic tests based on patient's genitourinary complaints and medical condition. Familiar with indications for advanced diagnostic tests and/or procedures Makes appropriate clinical decisions based on common diagnostic test results. Applies results of advanced diagnostic testing with supervision Selects and performs imaging studies based on patient's genitourinary complaint and medical condition	Consistently uses routine and advanced diagnostic tests and imaging procedures in a judicious fashion based on patient's genitourinary complaints and medical condition Makes appropriate clinical decisions based on common and advanced diagnostic test results	Uses and performs routine and advanced diagnostic tests in an efficient fashion based on patient's genitourinary complaints and medical condition
Example: Orders noncontrast computed tomography (CT) scan to evaluate renal colic Performs bladder scan to assess postvoid residual urine volume	Examples: Orders appropriate tests for common postoperative concerns, such as hypoxia or tachycardia Performs ultrasound-guided interventions, such as transrectal ultrasound-guided prostate nerve block and biopsy	Examples: Uses uroflowmetry appropriately in the evaluation of voiding dysfunction Understands indications for urodynamic evaluation Performs ultrasound-guided interventions, such as transrectal ultrasound-guided prostate nerve block and biopsy	Examples: Formulates clinical question to be addressed by urodynamic evaluation Interprets results of urodynamic testing in context of patient's medical history and exam Selects appropriate imaging modality, balancing risks (ie, radiation exposure), benefits, and costs	Example: Applies appropriate and selective CT scanning versus plain film radiography for follow-up in patients with stone disease

TABLE 3 | PC3 GENERATES A DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Creates a differential diagnosis for general complaints from patient's history and physical	Creates a differential diagnosis that includes common causes of urologic complaints	Creates a differential diagnosis that includes common and uncommon causes of urologic complaints Prioritizes potential causes of patient complaint using information-gathering skills	Creates a differential diagnosis that includes common, uncommon, and rare causes of urologic complaints Rapidly generates differential and strategy to finalize diagnosis for multiple urologic complaints	Creates a differential diagnosis that includes common, uncommon, and rare causes of urologic complaints Rapidly generates differential and strategy to finalize diagnosis for multiple urologic complaints
Example: For abdominal pain, considers urologic and nonurologic etiologies	Examples: For flank pain, considers common etiologies, such as urinary lithiasis and pyelonephritis For hematuria, considers common etiologies, such as infection, prostatic hyperplasia, and malignancy	Examples: For flank pain, considers less common etiologies, such as spontaneous hemorrhage from possible benign or malignant renal neoplasm (in addition to common etiologies listed above) For hematuria, considers less common etiologies, such as renal source of bleeding	Example: Generates differential and diagnostic strategy for range of urologic complaints, such as potential genitourinary malignancy, lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS), and flank pain	Example: Generates differential and diagnostic strategy for multiple urologic complaints, such as LUTS and renal mass

TABLE 4 | PC4 DEVELOPS A PATIENT CARE PLAN, INCLUDING MEDICAL, SURGICAL, AND/OR RADIOLOGIC INTERVENTIONS. COUNSELS PREOPERATIVE PATIENTS REGARDING TREATMENT OPTIONS, DISCUSSES RISKS, BENEFITS, AND ALTERNATIVES (INFORMED CONSENT PROCESS). COUNSELS PATIENTS REGARDING POTENTIAL SHORT- AND LONG-TERM IMPACT OF INTERVENTIONS ON QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE, AS APPLICABLE. ADAPTS INITIAL PLAN AS SUBACUTE OR CHRONIC CONDITION EVOLVES

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Develops rudimentary plan for routine clinical problem Understands basic elements of informed consent	Develops plan for routine clinical problem with defined treatment options in otherwise healthy patient Counsels patient for routine, lower-risk interventions	Develops plan for more complex clinical problem in otherwise healthy patient Counsels patients for routine, intermediate-risk urologic interventions	Develops plan for complex clinical problem in patient with multiple comorbid conditions Counsels patients for complex, higher-risk urologic interventions, with potential impact on quantity and/or quality of life	Routinely and efficiently develops plan for complex clinical problem in patient with multiple comorbid conditions Counsels patients for complex, higher-risk urologic interventions, with potential impact on quantity and/or quality of life
Example: Identifies shock wave lithotripsy as management option for urinary calculi	Examples: Identifies shock wave lithotripsy and/or ureteroscopic fragmentation for routine symptomatic proximal ureteral stone Obtains informed consent for selected stone treatment Considers metabolic evaluation when patient presents with episode of recurrent nephrolithiasis	Examples: Identifies and prioritizes management options for incidental small renal mass in an otherwise healthy patient Identifies medical and surgical management options for patient with LUTS If patient with LUTS does not improve with medical management, appropriately selects operative intervention Discusses risks, benefits, alternatives, and expected recovery course for straightforward radical nephrectomy	Examples: Identifies and prioritizes management option for incidental renal mass in elderly female with chronic kidney disease and significant comorbidities Discusses risks, benefits, alternatives, and understanding of quality of life impact, of radical cystectomy with various urinary diversions	Examples: Identifies and prioritizes management options for older patient with caval thrombus and renal tumor Discusses risks, benefits, and alternatives of intervention with significant mortality or morbidity risk

TABLE 5 | PC5 PERFORMS INTRAOPERATIVE AND POSTOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS, INCLUDING RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT OF PHYSIOLOGIC ALTERATIONS AND COMPLICATIONS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies alterations in normal physiology	Identifies common intraoperative and postoperative alterations and complications Manages common complications, with appropriate help-seeking behavior as necessary	Identifies and manages less common intraoperative and postoperative alterations and complications Identifies and manages common later complications of urologic interventions	Identifies and manages common and uncommon intraoperative and postoperative physiologic alterations and complications	Efficiently identifies and manages common and uncommon intraoperative and postoperative physiologic alterations and complications
Example: Readily identifies signs of physiologic alteration, such as hypotension or tachycardia	Example: Readily identifies, evaluates, and appropriately manages postoperative ileus Seeks assistance from upper-level residents and/or faculty as appropriate for resident experience and clinical condition of patient	Examples: Recognizes and manages partial disruption of ureteropelvic junction during percutaneous nephrostolithotomy, either intraoperatively or postoperatively Recognizes symptoms of and manages bladder neck contracture after radical prostatectomy	Examples: Recognizes development of ureteroenteric anastomotic stricture following ileal loop urinary diversion Appropriately manages immediate intervention for stricture as well as further evaluation (ie, for recurrence of urothelial carcinoma)	Examples: Rapidly anticipates and takes action to prevent development of postoperative complications Initiates early nutritional supplementation in at-risk postoperative patients

TABLE 6 | PC6 PERFORMS OPEN SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Closes incisions for routine urologic procedures under direct supervision (as defined in the Program Requirements)	Creates and closes surgical wounds for <b>routine</b> urologic procedures Performs routine urologic procedures appropriate for level of education	Plans, creates, and closes surgical wounds for <b>routine</b> urologic procedures Manipulates, repairs, and excises (as necessary) internal structures with appropriate instrument selection and technique for <b>routine urologic</b> procedures	Plans, creates, and closes surgical wounds for <b>routine and complex</b> urologic procedures Manipulates, repairs, and excises (as necessary) internal structures with appropriate instrument selection for <b>majority urologic</b> procedures	Manipulates, repairs, and/or excises (as necessary) internal structures with appropriate instrument selection for <b>majority urologic</b> procedures
Example: Closure of the abdomen after a midline incision	Example: Circumcision in an adult with phimosis Hydrocelectomy for a moderately sized hydrocele	Examples: Radical orchectomy for a testicular mass Orchidopexy for an inguinal undescended testis Bladder neck/urethral sling for female stress urinary incontinence Placement of inflatable penile prosthesis Opening and closing of abdominal and flank incisions	Examples: Open partial nephrectomy for a small polar renal mass Ileal conduit urinary diversion	Examples: Cystectomy and orthotopic neobladder Radical nephrectomy for renal cancer with infrarenal caval tumor thrombus

TABLE 7 | PC7 PERFORMS ENDOSCOPIC PROCEDURES OF THE UPPER AND LOWER URINARY TRACT

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Obtains access and performs examination of bladder and ureter for <b>routine</b> cases	Obtains access to bladder, ureter, and <b>kidney</b> , as appropriate for level of education	Obtains access to bladder, ureter, and <b>kidney</b> , as appropriate for level of education	Obtains access to bladder, ureter, and kidney for <b>routine</b> and <b>complex</b> cases	Manipulates endoscopic equipment with appropriate instrument selection and correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>majority routine and complex</b> transurethral and ureteroscopic and <b>percutaneous</b> cases
Example: Cystoscopy in an adult female for removal of a ureteral stent	Manipulates endoscopic equipment with appropriate instrument selection and correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>routine</b> transurethral and ureteroscopic cases, as appropriate for level of education	Manipulates endoscopic equipment with appropriate instrument selection and correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>majority</b> <b>transurethral and percutaneous</b> cases	Manipulates endoscopic equipment with appropriate instrument selection and correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>majority routine and percutaneous</b> cases	Obtains percutaneous renal access

TABLE 8 | PC8 PERFORMS LAPAROSCOPIC/ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Manipulates laparoscopic equipment as <b>assistant</b> for <b>routine</b> cases without robotic assistance under direct supervision (as defined in the Program Requirements)	Manipulates laparoscopic equipment with correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>assistant</b> for <b>routine</b> cases	Obtains access and insufflates abdomen for <b>routine</b> cases	Manipulates laparoscopic and/or robotic equipment with appropriate instrument selection and correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>routine</b> cases	Manipulates laparoscopic and/or robotic equipment with appropriate instrument selection and correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>majority routine and complex</b> cases
Example: Holds the laparoscope for laparoscopic renal cyst decortication and uncomplicated simple nephrectomy	Example: Functions as first <b>assistant</b> for a laparoscopic nephrectomy	Example: Obtains routine access to the peritoneal cavity with establishment of pneumoperitoneum	Example: Laparoscopic radical nephrectomy for a 7-cm renal mass	Examples: Robot-assisted laparoscopic radical prostatectomy Robot-assisted laparoscopic pyeloplasty

TABLE 9 | PC9 PERFORMS OFFICE-BASED PROCEDURES

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Performs routine outpatient procedures under direct supervision (as defined in the Program Requirements)	Obtains access to bladder for <b>routine</b> office procedures	Manipulates endoscopic and office surgical equipment with correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>routine</b> procedures	Manipulates endoscopic and office surgical equipment with correct force, speed, depth, and distance for <b>routine and complex</b> procedures	Performs <b>complex</b> diagnostic and therapeutic outpatient procedures
<i>Examples: Removal of surgical drains Removal of skin sutures and staples</i>	<i>Flexible cystoscopy for bladder cancer surveillance Flexible cystoscopy for removal of ureteral stent</i>	<i>Example: Transrectal ultrasound-guided needle biopsy of the prostate</i>	<i>Example: Flexible cystoscopy with dilation of urethral stricture Routine office vasectomy Percutaneous suprapubic tube insertion</i>	<i>Examples: Performs and interprets videourodynamic studies Performs outpatient minimally invasive treatment for benign prostate hyperplasia (BPH) Transrectal ultrasound scan (TRUS) Implantation of fiducial marker for prostate cancer</i>

TABLE 10 | SBP1 WORKS EFFECTIVELY WITHIN AND ACROSS HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Describes basic levels of systems of care Identifies the types of health care providers within a health care delivery system	Knows unique roles of and services provided by local health care delivery systems and how to access these resources for patient care Knows and appreciates the roles of a variety of health care providers, including consultants, therapists, nurses, home care workers, pharmacists, and social workers Advocates for quality patient care	Manages and coordinates care and care transitions across multiple delivery systems, including ambulatory, subacute, acute, rehabilitation, and skilled nursing Advocates for quality patient care and optimal patient care systems Advocates for quality patient care	Discusses nonpharmacologic and nonprocedural patient resources (e.g., physical therapy, social work, alternative medicine providers, chaplains) with patients and families Demonstrates how to lead a health care team by using the skills and coordinating the activities of interprofessional team members (physician extenders/mid-levels, nurses, medical students, allied health workers, etc.) Negotiates patient-centered care among multiple care providers	Is adept at systems thinking Capably leads the health care team, understanding personal role as leader Contributes meaningfully to interprofessional teams

  

<i>Example: The physician</i>	<i>Example: The physician</i>	<i>Example: The physician</i>	<i>Example: The physician</i>	<i>Example: The physician</i>
<i>1. Identifies patient issues that are beyond his or her personal scope and abilities and may require consultation</i>	<i>1. Places consults for nonurologic issues affecting individual patients 2. Reconciles medications at transfer</i>	<i>1. Involves the primary care physician and other consultants appropriately in the care of individual patients 2. Facilitates performance of the interprofessional care team by (a) timely, clear communication/updating of patient condition and orders; and (b) skilful, respectful interaction (see IC5); and complies with communication protocols</i>	<i>1. Coordinates the need for multidisciplinary involvement; and (b) skilful, respectful interaction with all team members (see IC5) 2. Plans for appropriate posthospitalization care of the patient 3. Reconciles medications at transfer</i>	<i>1. Capably leads interprofessional care teams by (a) anticipating the need for multidisciplinary involvement; and (b) skilful, respectful interaction with all team members (see IC5) 2. Aligns appropriate posthospitalization care of the patient</i>

TABLE 11 | SBP2 INCORPORATES COST AWARENESS AND RISK-BENEFIT ANALYSIS INTO PATIENT CARE

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Recognizes the concept of risk-benefit analysis associated with obtaining and providing health care</p> <p>Identifies basic laboratory and radiographic tests that are commonly performed, recognizing that each is associated with specific costs</p> <p><i>Example: The physician</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognizes the physician's creed to "First, do no harm"</li> <li>2. Understands the information conveyed by basic laboratory tests</li> </ol>	<p>Knows common socioeconomic barriers that impact patient care</p> <p>Describes how cost-benefit analysis is applied to patient care</p> <p>Knows relative costs of frequently used diagnostic and therapeutic interventions, such as CT versus magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans, and the extent and ways they contribute to diagnostic accuracy and positive patient outcomes</p> <p><i>Example: The physician</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understands that health care setting, insurance provider, and patient factors may impact an individual's choice between various clinical investigations</li> <li>2. Orders appropriate laboratory tests and radiographic studies</li> <li>3. Has a beginning appreciation of the cost of OR equipment</li> </ol>	<p>Identifies the role of various health care stakeholders (health care systems, hospitals, insurance carriers, health care providers, etc.) and their varied impact on the cost of and access to health care</p> <p>Demonstrates the incorporation of cost awareness and risk-benefit principles into standard clinical judgments and decision making</p> <p><i>Example: The physician</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Selects diagnostics tests and interventions that have a high probability of adding value to patient care in common clinical scenarios</li> <li>2. Minimizes unnecessary care, including laboratory tests and radiographic studies, such as by not reordering tests performed at other facilities</li> <li>3. Has some appreciation of the efficient use of various OR equipment (e.g., does not open up more endoscopic instruments than are needed at the beginning of a procedure)</li> </ol>	<p>Demonstrates the incorporation of cost awareness and risk-benefit principles into complex clinical scenarios</p> <p>Minimizes unnecessary care by ordering appropriate laboratory tests and radiographic studies</p> <p>Uses essential equipment with efficiency in the OR</p> <p><i>Example: The physician</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has knowledge of urology billing codes</li> <li>2. Understands reimbursement principles</li> <li>3. Efficiently uses laboratory testing, complex studies, and equipment necessary in the care of individual patients</li> </ol>	<p>Consistently incorporates cost awareness and risk-benefit principles into all clinical scenarios</p> <p>Masterfully uses common and highly specialized equipment within the OR</p> <p><i>Example: The physician</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Capably applies urology billing codes</li> <li>2. Follows situation-specific reimbursement principles</li> <li>3. Efficiently uses common and infrequently used laboratory testing, complex studies, and equipment necessary in the care of individual patients</li> </ol>

TABLE 12 SBP3 WORKS IN INTERPROFESSIONAL TEAMS TO ENHANCE PATIENT SAFETY

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Recognizes teamwork and communication failure in health care as leading cause of preventable patient harm</p> <p>Identifies critical incidents, such as near misses and preventable medical errors</p> <p>Describes the value and use of techniques and tools for preventing adverse events, including checklists, briefings, and structured communication and teamwork protocols</p>	<p>Identifies, reflects upon, and learns from critical incidents such as near misses and preventable medical errors</p> <p>Recognizes health system factors that increase the risk for error, including medical device design, flawed processes, easily confusable medications, barriers to optimal patient care, and competing interests of different stakeholders</p> <p>Describes key elements of a structured communication technique, such as SBAR</p>	<p>Dialogues with care team members to identify risk for and prevention of medical errors</p> <p>Understands methods for analysis and correction of systems errors</p> <p>Applies structured communication techniques and tools, such as Situation-Background-Assessment-Recommendation (SBAR), during handoffs and changes in patient condition</p> <p>Leads briefings and executes basic teamwork techniques designed to prevent adverse events (such as those in Crew Resource Management [CRM])</p>	<p>Leads team analysis of the effectiveness of techniques applied to prevent errors</p> <p>Partners with other health care professionals to identify, propose, and implement improvement opportunities within the system</p> <p>Uses specialized principles and techniques to study potential sources and causes of errors</p>	<p>Develops and evaluates communication and teamwork techniques designed to prevent medical errors</p> <p>Uses advanced specialized techniques to study potential sources and causes of errors</p> <p>Coordinates and/or leads system quality improvement studies and implementation interventions</p>

*Example: The physician*

1. Observes quality improvement (morbidity and mortality [M&M]) conferences (as appropriate and able)
2. Participates in discussions of medical errors that have occurred
3. Describes key elements of a structured communication technique, such as SBAR

*Example: The physician*

1. Participates in quality improvement (M&M) conferences
2. Identifies medical errors that have occurred
3. Partners and performs system improvement as a team member
4. Performs CRM techniques such as "read back" of a critical laboratory result or a verbal order given to assure accurate communication ("closed loop")

*Example: The physician*

1. Provides insight and guidance regarding quality improvement at conferences and in daily clinical work
2. Suggests and designs a system improvement/solution
3. Uses root cause analysis (RCA)

*Example: The physician*

1. Uses failure mode effect analysis (FMEA) or human factors engineering (HFEE) principles
2. Consistently leads toward quality improvement at conferences and in daily clinical work
3. Implements system improvement/solution

TABLE 1.3 SBP4 USES TECHNOLOGY TO ACCOMPLISH SAFE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Explains the role of the electronic health record (EHR) and computerized physician order entry (CPOE) in prevention of medical errors	As is applicable in the institution, uses the EHR to order tests, medications, and document notes, and responds to alerts Recognizes the risks and limitations added by EHRs	Efficiently uses information systems for patient care, including literature review (see also "Practice-Based Learning and Improvement" [PBLI]) Demonstrates medication reconciliation for patients by using a variety of strategies Consistently demonstrates safe practices to minimize risks and limitations added by EHRs	Contributes to reduction of risks of automation and computerized systems by reporting system problems Uses decision support systems in EHR (as applicable in the institution) Critiques decision support systems	Judges safety of computer and device interfaces by using heuristics Recommends systems redesign for faculty computerized processes
Example: The physician	1. Can use the EHR and CPOE to enter clinical information and basic orders 2. Demonstrates efficiency in accomplishing repeated tasks (such as creating automated rounding lists or order sets) 3. Understands the risk of using defaults and cut-and-paste strategies to create notes	Example: The physician 1. Competently uses the EHR and CPOE on a daily basis for patient care activities 2. Demonstrates efficiency in accomplishing repeated tasks (such as creating automated rounding lists or order sets) 3. Never uses copy/paste strategies without relevant revision	Example: The physician 1. Efficiently uses the EHR and CPOE for patient care activities 2. Performs medication reconciliation with attention to details from the present clinical course that may lead to changes (such as when to resume medications that have been stopped for surgery) 3. Never uses copy/paste strategies without relevant revision	Example: The physician 1. Capably uses the EHR and CPOE to care for patients and communicate essential information with other members of the health care team 2. Identifies flaws in decision support systems, automated care pathways, or system alerts

TABLE 1.4 PBLI IMPROVES VIA FEEDBACK AND SELF-ASSESSMENT

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Accepts feedback from faculty members and senior residents positively	Responds welcomingly and productively to feedback from all members of the health care team, including faculty members, peer residents, students, nurses, allied health workers, and patients and their advocates	Maintains awareness of the situation and responds to situational needs Demonstrates self-reflection	Actively responds to and uses feedback from all members of the health care team	Calibrates self-assessment with feedback and other external data Reflects on feedback in developing plans for improvement
Example: When made aware by the chief resident that he or she has missed pertinent findings on the history and physical (H&P), acknowledges and subsequently improves his or her interview skills	Example: Is perceived as rude by a patient and is made aware by a clinic nurse; accepts criticism, is apologetic, and changes behavior going forward	Example: At a patient's follow-up, becomes aware that he or she has not called the patient back as promised; apologizes to patient and implements change to prevent this problem from happening again	Example: Analyzes 360°-feedback and implements changes	Example: Tabulates information on positive margin rates for radical prostatectomy to benchmark own performance Reviews feedback on surgical performance from last 12 months and independently sets up practice schedule in surgical skills lab to practice specific techniques

TABLE 15 | PBL12 LEARNS AND IMPROVES BY ASKING AND ANSWERING CLINICAL QUESTIONS FROM A PATIENT SCENARIO

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes general information deficits (background information) as they become apparent in clinical encounters  Example: <i>Reads up in a textbook on general topics, such as prostate cancer</i>	Identifies specific information needs (background information) as they emerge in patient care activities  Example: <i>Reads up in a textbook on specific management options for prostate cancer, such as adjuvant radiation therapy</i>	Formulates focused clinical questions for questions that relate to therapy  Example: <i>Formulates focused clinical question for therapy, as: "in patients with positive margins after radical prostatectomy, how does adjuvant radiotherapy (XRT) compare to observation with regard to disease-specific survival?"</i>	Distinguishes different types of clinical questions aside from therapy (ie, prognosis, diagnosis, cost-effectiveness)  Example: <i>Can engage in a nuanced discussion of the risk-benefit ratio of PSA screening</i>	Sets up an information system to stay current with the current best evidence on select topics  Example: <i>Subscribes to EvidenceUpdates (<a href="http://plus.mcmaster.ca/EvidenceUpdates/">http://plus.mcmaster.ca/EvidenceUpdates/</a>), a free evidence-based resource for updates on newly published high-quality evidence</i> Receives alerts from My NCBI for trials and systematic review on adjuvant XRT

TABLE 16 | PBL13 ACQUIRES THE BEST EVIDENCE

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Performs unsystematic searches for research findings with little discrimination of the quality of the resource  Example: <i>Uses a general search engine, such as Google, to find information on adjuvant radiation for prostate cancer</i>	Uses medical information systems to find medical information but lacks ability to discriminate resources and search efficiently  Example: <i>Uses PubMed to search for the appropriate treatment of vesicoureteral reflux [VUR] and limits (ie, pediatric) to narrow search results; chooses studies based on design (ie, randomized controlled trials [RCTs])</i>	Effectively and efficiently searches National Library of Medicine database for original clinical research articles  Example: <i>Combines various relevant search terms (ie, vesicoureteral reflux [VUR]) and limits (ie, pediatric) to narrow search results; chooses studies based on design (ie, randomized controlled trials [RCTs])</i>	Effectively and efficiently searches evidence-based summary medical information resources (preappraised evidence) and filters to enhance search  Example: <i>Uses the National Guideline Clearinghouse to contrast clinical practice guidelines on interstitial cystitis by different professional organizations</i>	Demonstrates information mastery by effectively and efficiently tapping into a variety of information resources  Example: <i>When searching for the current best evidence on adjuvant radiation, seamlessly moves through different resources, such as Dynamed, the National Guideline Clearinghouse, and the Cochrane Library, to find an answer</i>

TABLE 17 | PBL4 APPRAISES THE EVIDENCE FOR VALIDITY, IMPACT, AND APPLICABILITY

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates a basic understanding of the “hierarchy of evidence” concept	Demonstrates an understanding of main types of study design for clinical research Understands how bias and confounding are minimized at higher levels of the “hierarchy of evidence”	Assesses the impact and applicability of results from a variety of study designs Understands the basic concepts underlying hypothesis testing	Appraises studies of harm, diagnosis, and prognosis for validity, impact, and applicability Demonstrates a thorough understanding of study design and hypothesis testing	Appraises systematic reviews, clinical practice guidelines, and cost-effectiveness studies for validity, impact, and applicability

TABLE 18 | PBL5 APPLIES THE EVIDENCE TO DECISION MAKING FOR INDIVIDUAL PATIENTS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Uses research evidence to guide clinical decision making for individual patients	Determines whether clinical evidence from a single study can be generalized to an individual patient	Seeks to integrate the entire body of evidence for a clinical question in reaching a clinical decision	Assesses the clinical context, the patient's values and preferences, and the quality of evidence to reach a clinical decision	Applies a framework for making clinical recommendations, based on the quality of evidence and anticipated ratio of benefit to harm

TABLE 19 | PBL6 IMPROVES THE QUALITY OF CARE FOR A PANEL OF PATIENTS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates general appreciation of the need to constantly improve quality and safety	Demonstrates commitment to providing high-quality care in clinic by raising specific quality and safety issues	Engages in team-based quality improvement interventions	Identifies areas in his or her own practice and local system that can be changed to improve the processes and outcomes of care	Internalizes commitment to continuous quality and safety improvement
<i>Example: Made aware of suboptimal scrub technique associated with increased risk of infection, adjusts accordingly</i>	<i>Example: Raises the question in clinic about the appropriateness of varying antibiotic prophylaxis regimens used by the faculty for office-based procedures in the urology clinic</i>	<i>Example: Is an active participant in a quality improvement initiative to standardize antibiotic prophylaxis regimen in the urology clinic</i>	<i>Example: Self-identifies apparent overutilization of diagnostic imaging studies (ie, CT scan, bone scan) in patients with clinically localized prostate cancer. In partnership with others, leads a quality improvement initiative that includes dissemination of guidelines, as well as periodic practice audits</i>	<i>Example: Is recognized as a champion of quality improvement, frequently questioning current practices and suggesting and implementing changes</i>

TABLE 20 | PBL7 PARTICIPATES IN THE EDUCATION OF OTHER TEAM MEMBERS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Fully participates in required didactic activities	Attends and participates actively in teaching conferences Teaches medical students	Informally teaches fellow residents, medical students, and other health care professionals	Organizes didactic educational activities, including determination of educational content Formally teaches fellow residents, medical students, and other health care professionals	Takes responsibility for education for residents at all levels of education
<i>Example: Attends required didactic conferences more than 75% of the time</i>	<i>Example: Presents cases at didactic conferences for discussion</i>	<i>Example: Teaches nurses how to titrate continuous bladder irrigation Models while explaining to medical student how to place coudé catheter</i>	<i>Example: Plans and executes Grand Rounds presentations tailored toward a specific audience of residents and faculty members</i> <i>Reads up on an interesting case, for example, patient with prune-belly syndrome encountered in clinic, to enhance quality of care and for own learning; then presents at a case-based conference for the educational benefit of others</i>	<i>Example: Oversees educational curriculum for medical knowledge, based on the AUA Core Curriculum for an entire year; adjusts format and topics to learning needs of residents</i>

**TABLE 2.1 ICS1 COMMUNICATES EFFECTIVELY With PATIENTS AND FAMILIES With DIVERSE Socioeconomic And Cultural Backgrounds**

- MEDICAL INTERVIEWING (ALSO SEE PC)
- COUNSELING AND EDUCATION (ALSO SEE PC)
- HOSPITALIZATION UPDATES
- DELIVERING BAD NEWS
- INFORMING ABOUT MEDICAL ERROR

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Demonstrates adequate skills of listening without interrupting, ensuring his or her message was understood, and allows an opportunity for questions</p> <p>Demonstrates sensitivity to patients' cultures</p>	<p>Exhibits most of the basic communication skills during medical interviews, counseling and education, and hospitalization updates when the patient condition is nonacute or life-threatening</p>	<p>Consistently and capably exhibits basic communication skills in nonstressful situations and in some stressful, challenging situations, for example, time stressed, when patient's condition is acute or life-threatening, or when the patient is mentally impaired</p> <p>Can capably deliver bad news to the patient or family, related to condition severity</p>	<p>Consistently and capably exhibits basic communication skills in a variety of contexts</p> <p>Consistently, capably, and confidently delivers bad news to the family about complications and death, and informs them of a medical error that caused harm</p> <p>Role models effective communication to junior colleagues</p>	<p>Is capable of effective communication in the most challenging and emotionally charged situations, and invites participation from all stakeholders</p>

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5): Basic patient and family interpersonal and communication skills*

*The physician*

1. *Listens actively for example, allows the patient to tell his or her story or to provide his or her perspective; does not interrupt and talk over.*
2. *When explaining, presents small chunks of information at a time; avoids use of technical, medical words; paces speech appropriately (ie, not fast).*
3. *Ensures that his or her message was understood; for example, when applicable, the patient can repeat/summarize treatment options, the patient can describe signs that would signal a need to contact the physician, the patient can repeat home care instructions.*
4. *Responds supportively and empathetically to patients' emotions and concerns.*
5. *Defuses emotionally charged situations to enable communication.*
6. *Invites and encourages the patient and his or her family/advocates to participate in shared decision making.*
7. *Allows the opportunity for patient questions throughout the encounter.*
8. *Keeps patients and families up-to-date on care plans, test results, and health status during hospitalization.*
9. *Demonstrates sensitivity to differences in patients, including race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, literacy, and religious beliefs.*
10. *Uses translation services as needed to communicate with patients.*

TABLE 22 | ICS2 EFFECTIVELY COUNSELS, EDUCATES, AND OBTAINS INFORMED CONSENT (SEE PC )

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Provides limited information, minimal therapeutic advocacy and generic risk and benefit analysis	Exhibits most patient-centered basic skills above, but consistently checks for patient understanding and invites questions. Gaps may be present in condition-specific information related to risks, benefits, and treatment options	Consistently and capably performs patient-centered skills while counseling and obtaining informed consent across a diverse set of situations involving serious illness. Condition-specific information related to risks, benefits, and treatment options is mostly complete and accurate	Provides patient-centered counseling in cases of acute and probable terminal illness	Demonstrates highly proficient counseling behaviors that are carefully personalized and participatory. These behaviors allow predictive recommendations with high resolution of the anticipated benefits and possible risks and complications

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5):*

1. Appropriately counsels patients about the risks and benefits of tests and procedures, highlighting cost awareness and resource allocation.
2. Uses patient-centered approach (see ICS1 examples above in “Basic patient and family interpersonal and communication skills”).

TABLE 23 | ICS3 COMMUNICATES EFFECTIVELY WITH PHYSICIANS, OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, AND HEALTH-RELATED AGENCIES

- WRITING DIAGNOSTIC REPORTS
- REFERRAL (ORAL AND WRITTEN)
- CONSULTATIONS (ORAL AND WRITTEN)
- MEDICAL RECORDS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Orally communicates and documents information of a basic nature regarding a patient's urologic problem	Exhibits skills in some cases. May include nonessential information and may fail to deliver information on time	Capably and consistently delivers complete, key, and timely information organized in accordance with established protocols and standards	Anticipates and prevents poor team communication and effectively manages conflicts arising from less-skilled residents	Capably disseminates cogent information of an essential nature in a fashion that leads to efficient resolution of urologic patient care issues

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5): Basic skill*

1. Handwritten information is legible.
2. Concisely provides key information organized in conformance with established protocols and standards.
3. Information provided is complete and timely, that is, meets the needs of the requestor/receiver and enables the next step in patient care to take place with full information and without rescheduling.

TABLE 24 | ICS4 COMMUNICATES EFFECTIVELY DURING CARE TRANSITIONS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH FELLOW RESIDENTS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates ability to summarize and transfer key information about patient issues when transferring care	Capably uses one form of communication to transfer key information, invites questions, and seeks advice for challenging situations	Demonstrates most components but inconsistency and lapses may occur in time-stressed or otherwise challenging situations	Consistently and capably demonstrates all handover components across a range of situations	Always transfers care in a manner that is thorough, personal, and anticipatory by using a checklist that clearly delineates responsibility and invites questions and feedback

*Examples (applies to levels 1-5): Patient handover skills*

1. *Uses multiple forms of communication, including both oral and written/electronic notes.*
2. *Information transfer focuses on key status information and must-do actions.*
3. *Invites questions.*
4. *Confirms recipient's receipt and understanding of information.*
5. *Clearly delineates responsibilities.*
6. *Provides information on the back-up plan should the recipient of the "handover" become unavailable.*
7. *Follows a formalized protocol, including use of a regular quiet meeting place.*
8. *Is patient centered and does not appear rushed.*

TABLE 2.5 • OR TEAM • CLINICAL TEAM (OFFICE, INPATIENT, OR OUTPATIENT/CLINIC) • PROFESSIONAL WORK GROUPS AND COMMITTEES (EG, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT, RESEARCH)		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
		Communicates and listens with sensitivity and respect for all members of the health care team	Consistently engages in basic communication and interpersonal behaviors that facilitate effective teamwork, including timely sharing of information, treating team members respectfully, being approachable and cooperative	Follows communication protocols for updating members on patient status, and expresses himself or herself in an objective, straightforward way, in situations of disagreement and conflict	Demonstrates good team leadership skills, including providing direction, inviting and using input, providing feedback, creating a positive team climate, managing conflict, and using briefing protocols that facilitate safe care	Leads by example and fosters continuous collaborative communication in any situation
		Examples: Attributes of good team members  The resident	Examples: Attributes of good team members  The resident	Examples: Advanced attributes of team members  The resident	Examples: Team leader skills  The resident	1. Requests and provides information politely and respectfully 2. Provides updates/shares information in a timely fashion; in particular keeps all team members up-to-date on patient care plans and status during hospitalizations 3. Focuses on team goal and not individual goal or agenda, that is, is not competitive 4. Displays approachability and openness to communication, that is, nonverbal-verbal displays do not signal annoyance and anger when approached
					1. Follows standardized communication protocols, for example, SBAR 2. Suggests modifications to improve standardized communication protocols 3. Respectfully and proactively expresses viewpoint and critiques the viewpoints of others (ie, without ridiculing, demeaning, or otherwise devaluing others' perspectives) 4. Is able to organize rounds and delegate tasks when chief resident is operating or away	1. Shares plan with team 2. Invites input and involves others 3. Is appropriately assertive 4. Provides feedback 5. Initiates briefings, for example, preoperatively and postoperatively 6. Provides and solicits ongoing updates so as to maintain situational awareness 7. Respectfully, directly, and proactively addresses behaviors and events that disrupt team functioning, for example, conflict, individual disruptive behavior, failure to perform responsibilities 8. Acts as a spokesperson for the team when communicating with faculty members or other teams 9. Takes responsibility for the decisions and actions of the team

TABLE 26 | P1 DEMONSTRATES ADHERENCE TO ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Working under supervising physician, recognizes examples of limiting task selection among more senior residents	Occasionally may be inclined to take on tasks beyond own ability but generally asks for help when needed	Usually conveys discomfort with unfamiliar tasks and will decline to proceed independently when not supervised	Never takes on tasks beyond own ability and reliably asks for help when needed Always knows when to refer patients and does not hesitate to do so Very comfortable working with more senior colleagues to refine skills	Demonstrates the ability and willingness to point out to peers and trainees concerns regarding observed appropriate task selection

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5)*

1. Recognizes limits of his or her abilities.
2. Asks for help when needed.
3. Refers patients when appropriate.
4. Exercises authority accorded by position and/or experience.

TABLE 27 | P2 DEMONSTRATES COMPASSION, INTEGRITY, AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Working under supervising physician, recognizes and reflects in writing on both positive and negative witnessed examples of compassion, integrity, and respect for others	Works well with others but on occasion may not follow through on stated commitments Occasionally displays lapses in respectfulness and compassion	Almost always viewed as a team player, but under conditions of high workload may not follow through on stated commitments Occasionally displays lapses in respectfulness and compassion in difficult, stressful, highly demanding situations	Is a strong team leader who always puts patient needs above his or her own Is always respectful and considerate Consistently able to deal appropriately with patient and family emotions	Demonstrates the ability and willingness to point out to peers and trainees concerns regarding observed behaviors that are not within the URO-4 standard for compassion, integrity, and respect for others

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5)*

1. Responds appropriately to patient and family emotions.
2. Establishes rapport.
3. Is respectful and considerate of patients, their families, and members of the health care team, for example, responds to questions, concerns, and requests; does not make inordinate demands; avoids sarcasm and other forms of belittlement and displays of petulance.
4. Responds to requests in a helpful and prompt manner.
5. Is honest in interactions with others and demonstrates honesty and truth telling in interactions with patients, families, and other health care professionals, for example, when communicating prognosis to patients and families, when reporting on patient care activities in medical records or to supervisors, and in disclosing adverse events and medical errors.

TABLE 28 | P3 DEMONSTRATES RESPONSIVENESS TO PATIENT NEEDS THAT SUPERSEDE SELF-INTEREST

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Working under supervising physician, recognizes and can reflect in writing on both positive and negative witnessed examples of being responsive to patient needs that supersede self-interest	Usually follows through with patient care obligations, but occasionally needs to be reminded of the importance of prompt responsiveness in checking patient data and initiating patient assessment, even when not personally convenient	Is consistently prompt and responsive, even when not personally convenient Almost always completes tasks on time and usually accepts responsibilities willingly	Always follows through with obligations to patient care Is proactive in reminding junior residents of importance of prompt responsiveness in patient care Always accepts feedback willingly	Demonstrates the ability and willingness to point out to peers and trainees concerns regarding observed behaviors that are not within the URO-4 standard for being responsive to patient needs that supersede self-interest Tasks are always completed in a careful and thorough manner

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5)*

1. Accepts responsibilities willingly.
2. Is industrious and dependable.
3. Completes tasks carefully and thoroughly.
4. Accepts feedback.
5. Takes on extra responsibilities when the need arises.

TABLE 29 | P4 DEMONSTRATES RESPECT FOR PATIENT PRIVACY AND AUTONOMY

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Working under supervising physician, recognizes and can reflect in writing on both positive and negative witnessed examples of respect for patient privacy and autonomy	Has occasional minor lapses in patient confidentiality Infrequently re-discusses clinical cases in common areas	Has rare lapses in patient confidentiality Almost always mindful of patient privacy concerns	Has no lapses in patient confidentiality Reminds junior residents of importance of maintaining patient confidentiality at all times Always able to recognize and honor patient privacy concerns	Demonstrates the ability and willingness to point out to peers and trainees concerns regarding observed behaviors that are not within the URO-4 standard for maintaining respect for patient privacy and autonomy

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5)*

1. Maintains patient confidentiality.
2. Recognizes and supports patients' right to make own decisions.

TABLE 3 | P5 DEMONSTRATES ACCOUNTABILITY TO PATIENTS, SOCIETY, AND THE PROFESSION

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
While working under supervising physician, demonstrates awareness of the importance of record completion and participates in these responsibilities as part of a team	Is usually responsive to criticism and understands importance of compliance and improvement Periodically fails behind in completion of medical records or Surgical Logs during times of heavy clinical responsibility	Consistently takes responsibility for actions and behavior Is able to admit mistakes in most cases	Mentors and supports junior residents in completion of such responsibilities Admits mistakes readily Always recognizes conflicts of interest Consistent in timely completion of medical records and Surgical Logs	Demonstrates ability to function in an oversight capacity in the clinical practice environment with regard to medical staff compliance matters related to documentation and medical records completion

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5)*

1. Takes responsibility for actions.
2. Admits mistakes.
3. Recognizes conflicts of interest that occur in practice and how to ethically respond to them, for example, relationships with drug and device representatives, referrals to self-owned facilities, or revenue-producing pressures by the hospital.
4. Complies with health system, regulatory agency, and government performance and outcome reporting requirements for Operative Logs, medical records, and adverse events.

TABLE 3 | P6 DEMONSTRATES SENSITIVITY AND RESPONSIVENESS TO DIVERSE POPULATIONS, INCLUDING DIVERSITY IN GENDER, AGE, CULTURE, RACE, RELIGION, DISABILITIES, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates reflective thinking through written portfolio entries, regarding specific patient experiences that raise cultural and diversity issues	Usually sensitive to cultural and other patient diversity matters, but occasionally needs to be reminded by senior colleagues to be more aware of the needs of diverse patient groups	Almost always demonstrates sensitivity to patient diversity matters and usually recognizes ethical dilemmas related to cultural differences	Always sensitive to cultural and other patient diversity matters Anticipates complex needs of diverse patient groups and leads team effort in demonstrating sensitivity and responsiveness Never discriminates in providing care	Demonstrates ability to critique residents and peers with regard to observed diversity and cultural sensitivity issues or concerns

*Examples (applies to levels 1–5)*

1. Sensitive to issues related to each patient's culture, age, gender, and disabilities.
2. Recognizes ethical dilemmas related to patient diversity, for example, patient rejection of treatment options due to religious or cultural reasons.
3. Provides equitable care regardless of patient culture or socioeconomic status.

TABLE 3.2 **MK DEMONSTRATES LEVEL-APPROPRIATE COMPETENCY IN CORE DOMAINS<sup>a</sup> AS INDICATED BY PERFORMANCE ON THE AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY IN-TRAINING EXAMINATION (ABSITE) AND AUA RESIDENT ISE**

<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
Achievement of a percentage correct score of <b>26 to 35</b> on the <b>AUA Resident ISE</b> <i>URO-1 only:</i> Achievement of a percentage correct score of <b>26 to 40</b> on the <b>ABSITE</b>	Achievement of a percentage correct score of <b>36 to 45</b> on the <b>AUA Resident ISE</b>	Achievement of a percentage correct score of <b>46 to 55</b> on the <b>AUA Resident ISE</b>	Achievement of a minimum percentage correct score of <b>56 to 65</b> on the <b>AUA Resident ISE</b>	Achievement of a minimum percentage correct score of <b>&gt;65</b> on the <b>AUA Resident ISE</b>

<sup>a</sup>Core Domains: Female Pelvic Medicine, Neurogenic Bladder and Incontinence, BPH and Voiding Dysfunction, Reconstruction, Calculus Disease, Fistulae, Adrenal Disease, Transplantation, Pediatrics, Reproductive and Sexual Dysfunction, Uroradiology and Radiation Safety, Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Infectious Disease, Hypertension and Renovascular Disease, Renal Trauma, Medical Oncology, Anatomy, Physiology, Geriatrics, Infections, and Uropathology.