



**Educational Objectives of the M.D Program**  
**University of Puerto Rico**  
**School of Medicine**

Approved by the Faculty of Medicine on May 30, 2007

The student, prior to graduation, must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the faculty the following:

**KNOWLEDGE**

1. Of the normal and altered structure and function of the body and of each of its major organ systems
2. Of the molecular, biochemical, and cellular mechanism that maintain homeostasis
3. Of the various etiologies and manifestations of diseases
4. Of the fundamentals of Clinical Research
5. Of how to critically appraise the scientific and clinical evidence that underlies EBM approaches to the treatment and care of individuals and populations
6. Of the available tools to engage in lifelong learning
7. Of theories and principles that encompasses ethical decision making and of the ethical dilemmas in medicine
8. Of the various principles that govern Prevention and Health Promotion
9. Of how physical, psychological, sociological, cultural, economic, and environmental processes contribute to disease etiology
10. Of population health and epidemiology of common maladies and strategies of reducing the incidence and prevalence of those maladies
11. Of the structure and function of a variety of health care delivery systems

**ATTITUDES**

1. Compassion and empathy in caring for patients
2. Integrity and honesty at all times
3. Respect for the patients autonomy, privacy and dignity at all times
4. A commitment to promote and advocate healthy lifestyles for patients, family and community
5. A commitment to provide care to patients who are not able to pay
6. A commitment to advocate the interest of patients over his/her own interests
7. The ability to recognize and manage the threats posed by conflicts of interests involved in various arrangements for the practice of medicine
8. Acceptance of limitations in knowledge and skills
9. A commitment to continuously improve his/her knowledge and skills
10. A commitment to conduct patient-centered care

**SKILLS**

1. The ability to obtain a culturally sensitive and accurate medical history
2. The ability to perform a complete and problem-specific physical examination including the mental status exam
3. The ability to perform routine technical procedures

4. The ability to use clinical reasoning to solve problems and to construct appropriate management strategies, including interpretation of commonly used diagnostic procedures
5. The ability to recognize and provide initial management to patients with immediate life threatening conditions
6. The ability to communicate and educate effectively, both orally and in writing, with patients, families, colleagues, and others
7. The ability to provide education on health promotion and healthy lifestyles
8. The ability to exhibit tolerance towards the values and beliefs of patients being served by the health care system, to facilitate the clarification and negotiation of differences in values and beliefs in others and to avoid the use of physician authority to advance personal values and beliefs of a non-clinical nature
9. The ability for self-education

### **BEHAVIORS**

1. A commitment to work collaboratively with all healthcare professionals, ancillary personnel, and Basic and Clinical Scientists.
2. An awareness of the economic, psychological, occupational, social and cultural factors that contribute to the impairment of health
3. An awareness of the human, physical and economical resources available for patient care
4. The ability to retrieve, manage and utilize Evidence-Based –Medicine for decision making regarding patient care
5. A commitment to provide the best care possible for all patients regardless of race, gender, sexual preference, ethnicity, age, economical status, religious or political preferences
6. A commitment for prevention and promotion of health
7. An understanding and pursue of a balance between their professional and personal life