The Child Neurology Milestone Project

A Joint Initiative of

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

and

The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology





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The Milestones are designed only for use in evaluation of resident in the context of their participation in ACGME-accredited residency or fellowship programs. The Milestones provide a framework for 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 six domains of physician competency, nor are they designed to be relevant in any other context.

Child Neurology Milestones

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Milestone Reporting

This document presents milestones designed for programs to use in semi-annual review of resident performance and reporting to the ACGME. Milestones are knowledge, skills, attitudes, and other attributes for each of the ACGME competencies organized in a developmental framework from less to more advanced. They are descriptors and targets for resident performance as a resident moves from entry into residency through graduation. In the initial years of implementation, the Review Committee will examine milestone performance data for each program's residents as one element in the Next Accreditation System (NAS) to determine whether residents overall are progressing.

For each period, review and reporting will involve selecting milestone levels that best describe a resident's current performance and attributes. Milestones are arranged into numbered levels. Tracking from Level 1 to Level 5 is synonymous with moving from novice to expert in the subspecialty.

Selection of a level implies that the resident substantially demonstrates the milestones in that level, as well as those in lower levels (see the diagram on page v).

- **Level 1:** The resident demonstrates milestones expected of an incoming resident.
- **Level 2:** The resident is advancing and demonstrates additional milestones, but is not yet performing at a mid-residency level.
- **Level 3:** The resident continues to advance and demonstrate additional milestones, consistently including the majority of milestones targeted for residency.
- **Level 4:** The resident has advanced so that he or she now substantially demonstrates the milestones targeted for residency. This level is designed as the graduation target.
- **Level 5:** The resident has advanced beyond performance targets set for residency and is demonstrating "aspirational" goals which might describe the performance of someone who has been in practice for several years. It is expected that only a few exceptional residents will reach this level.

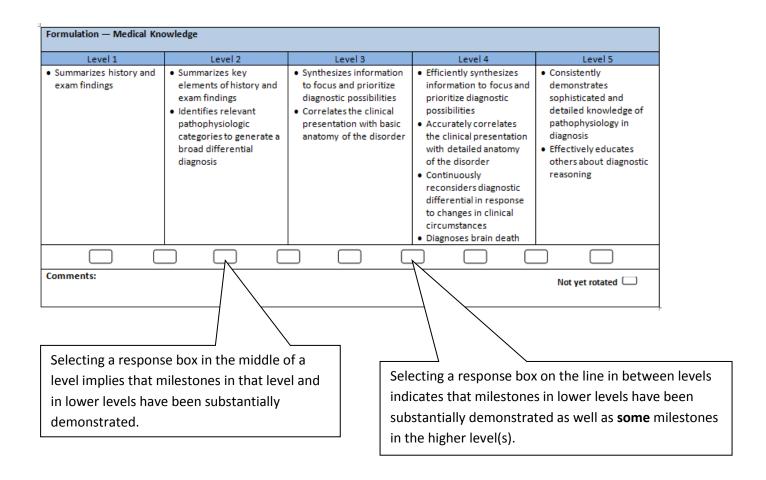
Additional Notes

Level 4 is designed as the graduation *target* and *does not* represent a graduation *requirement*. Making decisions about readiness for graduation is the purview of the residency program director. Study of Milestone performance data will be required before the ACGME and its partners will be able to determine whether milestones in the first four levels appropriately represent the developmental framework, and whether Milestone data are of sufficient quality to be used for high-stakes decisions.

Examples are provided with some milestones. Please note that the examples are not the required element or outcome; they are provided as a way to share the intent of the element.

Some milestone descriptions include statements about performing independently. These activities must occur in conformity to the ACGME supervision guidelines, as well as institutional and program policies. For example, a resident who performs a procedure independently must, at a minimum, be supervised through oversight.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Milestones are available on the Milestones web page: http://www.acqme.org/acqmeweb/Portals/0/MilestonesFAQ.pdf. The diagram below presents an example set of milestones for one sub-competency in the same format as the ACGME Report Worksheet. For each reporting period, a resident's performance on the milestones for each sub-competency will be indicated by selecting the level of milestones that best describes that resident's performance in relation to the milestones.



History — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Obtains a perinatal and developmentally appropriate neurologic and behavioral history	 Obtains a complete and relevant perinatal and developmentally appropriate neurologic and behavioral history Elicits patient and family contribution, as appropriate, based on cognitive level and cultural norms 	 Obtains a complete, relevant, and organized perinatal and developmentally appropriate neurologic and behavioral history Integrates patient and parent/care giver contribution into history Incorporates information from readily available sources external to the encounter (e.g., medical records) 	 Efficiently obtains a complete, relevant, and organized perinatal and developmentally appropriate neurologic and behavioral history Synthesizes patient, parent/care giver, and external source contribution into history 	Incorporates information from sources difficult to access external to the encounter (e.g., teachers, social workers)
Comments: Not yet rotated				

Neurological Exam — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Performs a complete, developmentally appropriate neurological exam on patients ranging across the lifespan Demonstrates a high level of respect and compassion in performing an exam across gender and cultural differences 	 Performs a complete, developmentally appropriate, and accurate neurological exam on patients ranging across the lifespan Examines for common signs and patterns of dysmorphology and dermatologic findings 	 Performs a relevant, developmentally appropriate neurological exam, incorporating some additional appropriate maneuvers Visualizes important findings on the funduscopic exam, including papilledema, chorioretinitis, and cherry red spots Accurately performs a neurological exam on the patient with depressed levels of consciousness (e.g., comatose, vegetative states, minimally conscious) 	 Efficiently performs a relevant, developmentally appropriate neurological exam accurately, incorporating all additional appropriate maneuvers Accurately performs an age-appropriate brain death examination 	Consistently demonstrates mastery in performing a complete, relevant, organized, and developmentally appropriate neurological exam across all age groups
Comments: Not yet rotated				

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates basic knowledge of management of patients with neurologic disease ranging across the lifespan	 Discusses the general approach to initial treatment of common neurologic disorders, including risks and benefits of treatment Identifies neurologic emergencies 	 Individualizes treatment for specific patients Initiates management for neurologic emergencies, and triages patients to the appropriate level of care Appropriately requests consultations from nonneurologic care providers for additional evaluation and management 	 Adapts treatment based on patient response Identifies and manages complications of therapy Independently directs management of patients with neurologic emergencies Appropriately requests consultations from a neurologic subspecialist for additional evaluation or management 	Demonstrates sophisticated knowledge of treatment subtleties and controversies in the care of patients of all ages
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Neurometabolic and Neurogenetic Disorders — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes when a patient may have a neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorder	Identifies neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorder patterns and categories	 Diagnoses and manages common neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorders Identifies neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorder emergencies 	 Diagnoses uncommon neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorders Appropriately refers a neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorder patient for more advanced diagnosis and treatment Manages neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorder emergencies 	 Manages uncommon neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorders Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in neurometabolic or neurogenetic disorders
Comments: Not yet rotated				

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes when a patient may have a movement disorder	Identifies movement disorder phenomenology and categories (hypokinetic and hyperkinetic)	 Diagnoses and manages patients with common movement disorders Identifies movement disorder emergencies 	 Diagnoses patients with uncommon movement disorders Appropriately refers a movement disorder patient for more advanced treatment Manages movement disorder emergencies 	 Manages patients with uncommon movement disorders Utilizes advanced treatment modalities (e.g., Botulinum toxin, intrathecal baclofen) Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in movement disorders
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes when a patient may have a neuromuscular disorder	 Identifies patterns of neuromuscular disease (e.g., anterior horn cell disease, nerve root, plexus, peripheral nerve, neuromuscular junction, muscle) Identifies neuromuscular disorder emergencies Orders nerve conduction study [NCS]/ electromyography [EMG], and genetic testing appropriately 	 Diagnoses and manages patients with common neuromuscular disorders Manages neuromuscular disorder emergencies Interprets results of genetic testing in the context of the clinical presentation 	 Diagnoses patients with uncommon neuromuscular disorders Recognizes when tissue biopsy is warranted Describes pitfalls in NCS/EMG testing Interprets results of NCS/EMG testing in the context of the clinical presentation 	 Manages patients with uncommon neuromuscular disorders Performs, interprets, and creates a report for NCS/EMG Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in neuromuscular disorders
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Cerebrovascular Disorders — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes when a patient may have a cerebrovascular disorder	 Describes stroke syndromes and etiologic subtypes Identifies cerebrovascular emergencies Lists indications and contraindications for intravenous thrombolytic therapy 	 Identifies specific mechanism of a patient's cerebrovascular disorder Appropriately refers for interventional or surgical evaluation Diagnoses and manages patients with common cerebrovascular disorders, including appropriate use of thrombolytics 	Diagnoses patients with uncommon cerebrovascular disorders	 Manages patients with uncommon cerebrovascular disorders Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in cerebrovascular disorders
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Cognitive, Behavioral, and F	Cognitive, Behavioral, and Psychiatric Disorders — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
 Recognizes when a patient may have a cognitive, behavioral, or psychiatric disorder Obtains an appropriate cognitive, behavioral, and psychiatric history 	 Identifies common cognitive, behavioral, or psychiatric disorders Identifies cognitive, behavioral, or psychiatric comorbidities in patients with neurologic disease Identifies major side effects of psychiatric and neurotropic medications 	 Diagnoses and manages patients with common cognitive and behavioral disorders, including cognitive effects of traumatic brain injury, including concussion Appropriately refers for neuropsychological testing in evaluating patients with cognitive, behavioral, and psychiatric disorders Recognizes when a patient's neurological symptoms are of psychiatric origin Recognizes when a patient's psychiatric symptoms are of neurologic origin 	 Diagnoses and manages patients with uncommon cognitive and behavioral disorders Diagnoses patients with common psychiatric disorders Manages complex combinations of medications with central nervous system effects 	 Manages patients with common psychiatric disorders Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in cognitive, behavioral, or psychiatric disorders Demonstrates sophisticated knowledge of advanced diagnostic testing and controversies 	
Comments: Not yet rotated					

Neuroimmunologic and White Matter Disorders — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes when a patient may have a neuroimmunologic or white matter disorder	Diagnoses and manages patients with common neuroimmunologic and white matter disorders	 Recognizes patients with uncommon neuroimmunologic and white matter disorders Manages acute presentations of neuroimmunologic and white matter disorders 	Diagnoses patients with uncommon neuroimmunologic and white matter disorders	 Manages patients with uncommon neuroimmunologic and white matter disorders Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in neuroimmunologic or white matter disorders
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Epilepsy — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes when a patient may have had a seizure	 Identifies epilepsy phenomenology, and classification of seizures and epilepsies Diagnoses convulsive status epilepticus 	 Diagnoses and manages patients with common seizure disorders and provides antiepileptic drug treatment Diagnoses patients with non-convulsive status epilepticus Manages patients with convulsive and non-convulsive status epilepticus Discusses short- and long-term effects of anticonvulsant therapies Counsels patient and caregivers on seizure management and safety issues 	 Diagnoses patients with uncommon seizure disorders Appropriately refers an epilepsy patient for more advanced therapies and interventions Manages short- and long-term effects of anticonvulsant therapies 	 Manages patients with uncommon seizure disorders Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in epilepsy
Comments: Not yet rotated				

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Recognizes common headache syndromes 	 Diagnoses and manages common headache syndromes Demonstrates the ability to distinguish primary from secondary headache disorders Identifies headache emergencies 	 Recognizes uncommon headache syndromes Diagnoses and manages headache emergencies Counsels patients and caregivers on headache management and safety issues Discusses side effects of headache therapies 	 Diagnoses and manages uncommon headache syndromes Manages side effects of headache therapies Appropriately refers a headache patient for more advanced therapies 	Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in headache syndromes
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Neuro-Oncology — Patient	Care			
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Recognizes common clinical presentations of the brain, spine, or peripheral nerves 	Identifies neuro- oncological emergencies and initiates management	 Provides differential diagnosis of the brain, spine, or peripheral nerves Identifies neurologic complications due to cancer or the treatment of cancer 	 Appropriately refers for advanced testing, including biopsy Manages neurologic complications due to cancer or the treatment of cancer 	Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in neuro- oncology
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Neuroimaging — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies basic neuroanatomy on brain and spine magnetic resonance [MR] and computerized tomography [CT]	 Recognizes emergent imaging findings on brain and spine MR and CT Identifies major vascular anatomy on angiography 	 Describes abnormalities of the brain and spine on MR and CT Recognizes maturation patterns of the brain and spine on MR and CT Identifies major abnormalities on angiography and ultrasound 	 Interprets MR and CT neuroimaging of brain and spine Recognizes need for specialized neuroradiologic procedures (e.g., magnetic resonance spectroscopy [MRS], positron emission tomography [PET], single-photon emission computed tomography [SPECT], diffusion tensor imaging [DTI]) 	 Identifies subtle abnormalities on angiography Interprets carotid and transcranial ultrasound Recognizes normal patterns on specialized neuroradiologic procedures Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) using neuroimaging techniques to study neurologic disorders
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Explains an EEG procedure in non- technical terms 	 Uses appropriate terminology related to EEG (e.g., montage, amplitude, frequency) Describes indications, limitations and clinical utility of amplitude integrated EEG (aEEG) 	 Describes normal EEG features of wake and sleep states Recognizes maturational changes in EEG Recognizes EEG patterns of status epilepticus Recognizes common EEG artifacts 	 Interprets common EEG abnormalities and creates a report Recognizes normal EEG variants Identifies EEG patterns in continuous bedside monitoring Correlates EEG patterns seen on concomitant video Interprets and manages patients based on aEEG results 	 Interprets uncommon EEG abnormalities Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) in EEG
Comments: Not yet rotated				

Lumbar Puncture — Patient Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Lists the indications and contraindications for lumbar puncture Lists the complications of lumbar puncture 	Manages complications from lumbar puncture	 Performs lumbar puncture under direct supervision 	 Performs lumbar puncture on patients across the lifespan without direct supervision 	 Performs lumbar puncture on patients with challenging anatomy
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Development — Medical Knowledge				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Recognizes that metabolism, biochemistry, and pharmacology evolve across the lifespan Lists growth and developmental norms Recognizes that emotional, cognitive, and behavioral developments evolve across the lifespan 	 Discusses normal embryology of the nervous system Discusses the changes of metabolism, biochemistry, and pharmacology across the lifespan Recognizes individuals who are outliers in normal growth and development Discusses normal emotional, cognitive, and behavioral development across the lifespan 	 Discusses the manifestations of variant embryology of the nervous system Discusses the changes of metabolism, biochemistry, and pharmacology across the lifespan in common pathologic disorders Has sufficient knowledge to counsel families regarding outliers in normal growth and development Discusses abnormal emotional, cognitive, and behavioral development across the lifespan 	 Has sufficient knowledge to counsel families regarding the manifestations and implications of common disorders of embryology of the nervous system Discusses the changes of metabolism, biochemistry, and pharmacology in uncommon disorders across the lifespan Has sufficient knowledge to counsel families regarding common disorders of emotional, cognitive, and behavioral development across the lifespan 	 Has sufficient knowledge to counsel families regarding the manifestations and implications of uncommon disorders of embryology of the nervous system Has sufficient knowledge to counsel families regarding uncommon disorders of emotional, cognitive, and behavioral development across the lifespan Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) related to metabolism, biochemistry, and pharmacology in the developing nervous system
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Localization — Medical Knowledge				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Attempts to localize lesions within the nervous system Describes basic neuroanatomy 	Localizes lesions to general regions of the nervous system	Accurately localizes lesions to specific regions of the nervous system	 Efficiently and accurately localizes lesions to specific regions of the nervous system and incorporates into ongoing patient management Describes advanced neuroanatomy 	Consistently demonstrates sophisticated and detailed knowledge of neuroanatomy in localizing lesions
Comments: Not yet rotated				

Formulation — Medical Knowledge				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Summarizes history and exam findings Demonstrates knowledge that neurologic diseases have age-specific presentations 	 Summarizes key elements of history and exam findings Identifies relevant pathophysiologic categories to generate a broad differential diagnosis 	 Synthesizes information to focus and prioritize diagnostic possibilities Correlates the clinical presentation with basic anatomy and physiology of the disorder 	 Efficiently synthesizes information to focus and prioritize diagnostic possibilities Accurately correlates the clinical presentation with detailed anatomy of the disorder Continuously reconsiders diagnostic differential in response to changes in clinical circumstances Utilizes age-appropriate guidelines to diagnose brain death 	 Consistently demonstrates sophisticated and detailed knowledge of pathophysiology in diagnosis Effectively educates others about diagnostic reasoning and pathophysiology
Comments: Not yet rotated				

Diagnostic Investigation — Medical Knowledge				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates general knowledge of diagnostic tests in neurology	 Discusses the general diagnostic approach appropriate to the clinical presentation Lists risks and benefits of tests 	 Individualizes the diagnostic approach to the specific patient Accurately interprets results of common diagnostic tests and assessment instruments 	 Explains diagnostic yield and cost-effectiveness of testing Accurately interprets results of less common diagnostic testing Recognizes indications and implications of genetic testing Recognizes indications for advanced imaging and other diagnostic studies 	Demonstrates sophisticated knowledge of diagnostic testing and controversies
Comments:				Not yet rotated

Systems thinking, including cost- and risk-effective practice — Systems-based Practice				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Describes basic cost and risk implications of care	 Describes cost- and risk- benefit ratios in patient care 	 Makes clinical decisions that balance cost- and risk-benefit ratios 	 Incorporates available quality measures in patient care Completes and presents a quality improvement project 	 Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) regarding cost- and risk-effective practice
Comments:			N	ot yet achieved Level 1

Work in inter-professional teams to enhance patient safety — Systems-based Practice				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Describes team members' roles in maintaining patient safety	Identifies and reports errors and near-misses	Describes potential sources of system failure in clinical care, such as minor, major, and sentinel events	Participates in a team- based approach to medical error analysis	Publishes in a peer- reviewed journal on multidisciplinary error analysis and patient safety
Comments:			No	ot yet achieved Level 1

Self-directed learning — Practice-based Learning and Improvement				
Identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in one's knowledge and expertise				
Set learning and improvement goals				
	appropriate learning activitie	S		
 Use information tech 	nology to optimize learning			
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Acknowledges gaps in knowledge and expertise 	Incorporates feedback	Develops an appropriate learning plan based upon clinical experience	Completes an appropriate learning plan based upon clinical experience	 Engages in scholarly activity regarding practice-based learning and improvement
Comments:			N	ot yet achieved Level 1

Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to the patient's health problems — Practice-based Learning and				
Improvement Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Uses information technology to search and access relevant medical information	Uses scholarly articles and guidelines to answer patient care issues	Critically evaluates scientific literature	 Incorporates appropriate evidence- based information into patient care Understands the limits of evidence-based medicine in patient care Identifies clinical controversies, analyzes the scientific literature, and develops reasoned conclusions for patient care based on the evidence 	Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) regarding evidence-based medicine
Comments:			N	lot yet achieved Level 1

Compassion, integrity, accountability, and respect for self and others — Professionalism				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
 Demonstrates compassion, sensitivity, and responsiveness to patients, families, and caregivers Demonstrates non-discriminatory behavior in all interactions, including with diverse and vulnerable populations Describes effects of sleep deprivation and substance abuse on performance 	 Demonstrates appropriate steps to address impairment in self Consistently demonstrates professional behavior, including dress and timeliness 	 Demonstrates compassionate practice of medicine, even in the context of disagreement with patient and family beliefs Incorporates patient and family socio-cultural needs and beliefs into patient care Demonstrates appropriate steps to address impairment in colleagues 	 Mentors others in the compassionate practice of medicine, even in the context of disagreement with patient and family beliefs Mentors others in sensitivity and responsiveness to diverse and vulnerable populations Advocates for quality patient care 	Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) regarding professionalism
Comments: Not yet achieved Level 1				

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5		
 Describes basic ethical principles Demonstrates responsiveness to patients, recognizing that patient needs supersede self interest 	Recognizes ethical issues in practice	 Analyzes and manages ethical issues in straightforward clinical situations 	Analyzes and manages ethical issues in complex clinical situations	 Demonstrates leadership and mentorship in applying ethical principles Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) regarding ethics 		
Comments: Not yet achieved Level 1						

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5		
 Develops a positive relationship with patients, families, and caregivers in uncomplicated situations Is aware of cultural diversities Actively participates in team-based care 	 Engages patients, families, and caregivers in shared decision- making Manages simple patient/family-related conflicts Is respectful of cultural diversities in discussions and management suggestions 	 Manages conflict in complex situations Uses easy-to-understand language in all phases of communication Recognizes differing philosophies within and between different disciplines in care provision 	 Manages conflict across specialties and systems of care Leads team-based patient care activities Recruits appropriate assistance from external sources when cultural differences create barriers to patient care 	Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) regarding teamwork and conflict management		
Comments: Not yet achieved Level 1						

Information sharing, gathering, and technology — Interpersonal and Communication Skills							
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5			
 Effectively communicates during patient care transitions using a structured communication tool Completes all documentation in a timely and accurate fashion, including use of electronic health record (EHR) Accurately documents transitions of care 	 Effectively communicates during team meetings, discharge planning, and other transitions of care Educates patients, families, and caregivers about the disease and management, including risks and benefits of treatment options 	 Effectively communicates the results of a neurologic consultation in a timely manner Effectively gathers information from collateral sources when necessary Demonstrates synthesis, formulation, and thought process in documentation Educates junior residents and medical students regarding disease identification and management 	 Effectively leads multidisciplinary patient care and family meetings Effectively and appropriately uses all forms of communication, including appropriate use of medical interpreters that respect patient privacy Mentors colleagues in timely, accurate, and efficient documentation 	Develops patient education materials Engages in scholarly activity (e.g., teaching, research) regarding interpersonal communication			
Comments: Not yet achieved Level 1							