

Standard Operating Procedures for Vital Experiences

Overview

Pursuant to the Doctor of Medicine Program Degree Requirements Policy all students must satisfactorily complete the required clinical experiences to graduate from the Doctor of Medicine Program. The Vanderbilt University School of Medicine (VUSM) has defined the required clinical experiences as the Vital Experiences beginning with the graduating class of 2024. The Vital Experiences are 100 clinical experiences (diagnoses, skills, procedures) that are required of all Doctor of Medicine students for graduation. The full list of Vital Experiences can be found here: <https://medschool.vanderbilt.edu/md-gateway/vital-experiences-list/>.

Purpose

To define the expectations for documenting Vital Experiences and describe how Vital Experiences contribute to clerkship/course grades and progress and promotion.

Standard Operating Procedures

To satisfactorily complete the required clinical experiences, a student must document both a sufficient quantity of Vital Experiences as well as sufficient coverage of all the Vital Experiences. Failure to document enough Vital Experiences and/or sufficient coverage of all Vital Experiences may impact course/clerkship grades as well as progress and promotion as described below.

Foundations of Clinical Care Phase

1. In the Foundations of Clinical Care (FCC) Phase, the expectation for logging Vital Experiences in VITALS is:
 - a. 40 total Vital Experiences logged by the end of the Medicine and Surgery clerkships and
 - b. 30 total Vital Experiences logged by the end of the Obstetrics/Gynecology and Pediatrics clerkships and
 - c. 20 total Vital Experiences logged by the end of each of the Neurology and Psychiatry clerkships and
 - d. 10 total Vital Experiences logged by the end of each two-week elective with the following exceptions:
 - i. No logging of Vital Experiences is required in IDIS-5202: Foundations of Medical Research II.
 - ii. No logging of Vital Experiences is required in IDIS5851: Foundations of Health Equity IIa and IDIS5851: Foundations of Health Equity IIb
 - e. If a student does not log the required number of Vital Experiences in VITALS as described above, the student will receive a Threshold in the domain of Practice-Based Learning and Improvement (PBLI) on their final grade.
 - f. Repeated Thresholds across courses/clerkships in the domain of PBLI for failure to log Vital Experiences will impact progress and promotion.

2. To ensure sufficient coverage of all Vital Experiences, students must log at least 85% of the Clerkship-specific Vital Experiences in VITALS for each of their clerkships.
 - a. If a student does not document at least 85% of the Clerkship-specific Vital Experiences in VITALS by the end of each clerkship, the domain of Practice-Based Learning and Improvement (PBLI) will be impacted on the final grade as follows:
 - i. If 70-84% of clerkship-specific Vital Experiences documented, Threshold in the domain of Practice-Based Learning and Improvement AND eligible for clerkship grade of Pass.
 - ii. If <70% of clerkship-specific Vital Experiences documented, Below Threshold in the domain of Practice-Based Learning and Improvement AND clerkship grade of Fail.
 - b. Repeated Thresholds across clerkships in the domain of PBLI for failure to log Clerkship-specific Vital Experiences will impact progress and promotion.
 - c. In the case of a failed clerkship due to failure to log sufficient Clerkship-specific Vital Experiences, the student will be required to remediate at minimum half of the clerkship time.

Immersion Phase

1. In the Immersion Phase, students must log Vital Experiences in VITALS for each course for which they receive clinical credit.
2. The student must ensure coverage of all the Vital Experiences, including those assigned to Clerkships and Immersion Phase courses/experiences prior to the end of Block 2 of the year of graduation.
3. The expectation for logging Vital Experiences in VITALS is:
 - a. 20 total Vital Experiences logged by the end of each Advanced Clinical Experience (ACE)
 - b. 20 total Vital Experiences logged by the end of each Acting Internship (AI)
 - c. 5 total Vital Experiences logged by the end of each Integrated Science Course (ISC)
4. If a student does not log the required number of Vital Experiences in VITALS as described above, the student will receive a flag in VSTAR Portfolio in the domain of Practice-Based Learning and Improvement (PBLI).
 - a. Repeated flags in the domain of PBLI will impact progress and promotion.