Curricular Components That Support the Functions of EPA 1: Provide Consultation to Other Health Care Providers Caring for Children

1. Establishing and maintaining working relationships with the referring providers/agencies, marked by bi-directional communication
   - Maintains availability, approachability, and professionalism
   - Uses clear and effective communication skills
   - Responds in a timely manner

2. Clarifying and focusing the clinical question to be addressed
   - Reaches agreement with the referral source on the nature and urgency of the problem
   - Self-assesses as to whether one has the requisite expertise to address the issue. If unable to meet needs, suggests other resources as appropriate

3. Gathering essential information from referring physician, organization, or health agency, as well as the patient(s) and family
   - Assesses the patient/family’s understanding of the need for consultation and clarifies this as needed
   - Provides an independent assessment and confirmation of findings and recommendations
   - Focuses data gathering on the question at hand but does not ignore other critical information that may require additional evaluation/consultation
   - Demonstrates professional and patient-centered practices in working with patients and health agencies

4. Communicating findings and recommendations to the patient and family, and the source of the referral (i.e., the requesting provider or health agency)
   - Based on level of urgency of the issue, communicates with referral source using agreed upon modality
   - Prepares a timely summary of the consultation and recommendations in agreed upon format (EHR, written report or recommendations), which addresses the specific questions to be answered
   - Informs patient and family of findings and how this will be communicated to referral source

5. Demonstrating content expertise in one’s area of pediatrics to provide consultation
   - Demonstrates many domains of competence during the consultation process, particularly medical knowledge, patient care, systems-based practice, and professionalism
   - Stays within one’s scope of practice as the consultant
   - Recognizes limitations and makes suggestions for other specialists/resources when appropriate

6. Navigating the relationship with the patient/family to be either supportive or directive (or some combination of the two) as needed over time.
• Negotiates with the sources of referral about the need for short term or ongoing involvement in the care of the patient
• Ensures that confidence and reputation of the source of referral is maintained and upheld

Curricular Components Authors

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