Curricular Components That Support the Functions of EPA 2: Direct and Coordinate Care for Patients with Unclear Diagnoses and Complex Patients

1. Reviewing and synthesizing pertinent patient information from past health records, providers, and patients/families
   - Participates in effective patient handoffs and transfers of care when assuming care of a patient from a colleague, referring provider, or institution
   - Obtains and reviews pertinent medical records related to acute care episode and chronic or longitudinal care
   - Communicates directly with primary care and subspecialty providers to obtain additional information and insight into patient’s medical and psychosocial conditions
   - Conducts an independent, comprehensive, and accurate history and physical exam
   - Synthesizes information from multiple sources to formulate a patient assessment

2. Applying knowledge of the patient’s chronic disease processes and medical devices to manage the patient
   - Utilizes clinical reasoning skills to develop a prioritized differential diagnosis that reflects both acute and chronic conditions
   - Determines the need for specific tests, interventions, and local or remote subspecialty consultation
   - Initiates a prioritized diagnostic evaluation and therapeutic management plan that is patient-centered, high-value, and safe
   - Employs both curative and palliative treatments when appropriate
   - Identifies opportunities to address whole child issues, such as nutrition, behavior, and preventive care
   - Describes indications, contraindications, risks, and benefits for placement of common medical devices
   - Recognizes and manages routine and emergency complications associated with medical devices

3. Recognizing and managing diagnostic and therapeutic uncertainty
   - Acknowledges when uncertainty arises among self or others and responds with appropriate measures
   - Recognizes potential detrimental effects of uncertainty on patients, families, and health care providers, including overuse of tests and treatments, diagnostic error, and psychosocial stress
   - Appropriately uses evidence-based diagnostic support tools and subspecialty consultation to address uncertainty and avoid diagnostic error
   - Addresses concerns of the patients and families and uses established communication techniques (e.g., shared decision making) to manage uncertainty
   - Creates a multistep contingency plan that acknowledges uncertainty and allows for alternative assessments, diagnoses, and treatments
4. Role modeling patient/family-centeredness through shared decision making
   - Respects patient and family expertise with regard to information about the medical conditions, personal circumstances, and goals for health care and quality of life
   - Partners with patients and families to make medical decisions based on clinical evidence that balances risks and expected outcomes with patient preferences and values
   - Demonstrates sensitivity to patient/family religious and cultural values and integrates these into discussions
   - Recognizes when personal perspective and bias may influence care and adapts accordingly

5. Leading a multidisciplinary and interprofessional health care team to ensure efficient, collaborative and patient-centered care coordination
   - Seeks collaboration and demonstrates respect for the skills and contributions of all team members
   - Demonstrates excellent expressive and receptive communication skills in all interactions
   - Determines the goals of hospitalization in collaboration with the patient, family, and medical home, recognizing that it may be a phase of more longitudinal care
   - Coordinates hospital care in an efficient manner, prioritizing high value care and optimizing patient throughput
   - Coordinates discussions with providers to provide single clear message to patients and families
   - Leads an interdisciplinary and/or family care conference when necessary
   - Implements a multidisciplinary transition plan for hospital discharge, including information about correct use and care of medical devices and emergency response instructions

6. Managing conflict and advocating for patients when there are differing medical opinions
   - Ensures patient and family goals of care are primary considerations in addressing and resolving conflict
   - Manages conflict constructively using a variety of strategies to unify the team and resolve problems
   - Builds consensus among team members based on available evidence, hospital policies, and related issues
   - Manages ethical dilemmas and utilizes hospital ethics committee when appropriate

Curricular Components Authors

Becky Blankenburg, Lindsay Chase, Jennifer Maniscalco, Mary Ottolini, Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship Directors