The Emergency Medicine Milestone Project

A Joint Initiative of

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and

The American Board of Emergency Medicine





Emergency Medicine Milestones

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EMERGENCY MEDICINE MILESTONES

1. Emergency Stabilization (PC1)

Prioritizes critical initial stabilization action and mobilizes hospital support services in the resuscitation of a critically ill or injured patient and reassesses after stabilizing intervention. Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Recognizes when a patient is Manages and prioritizes Develops policies and Recognizes abnormal vital signs Recognizes in a timely fashion when further clinical intervention unstable requiring immediate critically ill or injured patients protocols for the intervention is futile management and/or transfer of critically ill or injured Prioritizes critical initial stabilization actions in the Integrates hospital support patients Performs a primary assessment resuscitation of a critically ill or services into a management on a critically ill or injured patient strategy for a problematic injured patient stabilization situation Reassesses after implementing a Discerns relevant data to formulate a diagnostic stabilizing intervention impression and plan Evaluates the validity of a DNR order \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc Comments:

Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT, observed resuscitations, simulation, checklist, videotape review

2. Performance of Focused History and Physical Exam (PC2)

Abstracts current findings in a patient with multiple chronic medical problems and, when appropriate, compares with a prior medical record and identifies significant differences between the current presentation and past presentations Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Level 1 Level 2 Synthesizes essential data Identifies obscure, occult or Performs and communicates a Performs and communicates a Prioritizes essential components of a history given a limited or necessary for the correct rare patient conditions based reliable, comprehensive history focused history and physical management of patients using all solely on historical and physical and physical exam exam which effectively addresses dynamic circumstance the chief complaint and urgent potential sources of data exam findings Prioritizes essential components patient issues of a physical examination given a limited or dynamic circumstance \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc 0 Comments:

Suggested Evaluation Methods: Global ratings of live performance, checklist assessments of live performance, sport, oral boards, simulation

3. Diagnostic Studies (PC3)

Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Determines the necessity of diagnostic studies	studies Perform	appropriate diagn ns appropriate bed tic studies and pro	dside	Interprestudy, rand risk assistar	ets results of a diagrecognizing limitations, seeking interpresence when approprious risks, benefits, and tives to a diagnosticed	gnostic ions etive ate	the pre- and the altering Practice of diagr Underst false po	egnostic testing bas test probability of or likelihood of test re management es cost effective ord nostic studies tands the implication esitives and negative st probability	disease esults ering ns of	subtle ar diagnost	nates between nd/or conflicting ic results in the of the patient tion
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT, oral boards, standardized exams, chart review, simulation

4. Diagnosis (PC4)

Based on all of the available data, narrows and prioritizes the list of weighted differential diagnoses to determine appropriate management Level 1 Level 2 Level 5 Level 3 Level 4 Constructs a list of Constructs a list of potential Uses all available medical Synthesizes all of the available Uses pattern recognition to identify potential diagnoses based diagnoses, based on the greatest information to develop a list of data and narrows and prioritizes discriminating features between on chief complaint and the list of weighted differential similar patients and avoids premature likelihood of occurrence ranked differential diagnoses initial assessment including those with the diagnoses to determine closure greatest potential for morbidity Constructs a list of potential appropriate management diagnoses with the greatest or mortality potential for morbidity or mortality Correctly identifies "sick versus not sick" patients Revises a differential diagnosis in response to changes in a patient's course over time Comments:

Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT as baseline, global ratings, simulation, oral boards, chart review

5. Pharmacotherapy (PC5)

Selects and prescribes, appropriate pharmaceutical agents based upon relevant considerations such as mechanism of action, intended effect, financial considerations, possible adverse effects, patient preferences, allergies, potential drug-food and drug-drug interactions, institutional policies, and clinical guidelines; and effectively combines agents and monitors and intervenes in the advent of adverse effects in the ED

Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Knows the different classifications of pharmacologic agents their mechanism of a Consistently asks pati drug allergies	ction.	selection therape Conside	medical knowledge n of appropriate ag utic intervention rs potential advers nacotherapy	ent for	for treadagent be action, in anticipal effects Consider	ers array of drug the tment. Selects app ased on mechanism intended effect, an ites potential adver- ers and recognizes al drug to drug ions	ropriate n of d	based o intende effects, allergies drug-dru consider policies, includin	the appropriate agen in mechanism of action d effect, possible adviguation preferences, s, potential drug-fooding interactions, finantial rations, institutional and clinical guideling patient's age, weight	on, erse and cial	institutio	tes in developing onal policies on y and therapeutics
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Comments:												

Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT, portfolio, simulation, oral boards, global ratings, medical knowledge examinations

6. Observation and Reassessment (PC6)

Re-evaluates patients undergoing ED observation (and monitoring) and using appropriate data and resources, determines the differential diagnosis and, treatment plan, and displosition.

and displosition.											
Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Recognizes the need for patient re-evaluation	interven	s that necessary the itions are performed t's ED stay	-	Evaluate and trea observat	s a patient's clinica y intervals during th	herapies uring I status	therapie observat plan acc Identifie and othe including	rs additional diagnoses for a patient who is tion and changes treat ordingly as and complies with few regulatory requirering billing, which must be tient who is under tion	under itment ederal ments,	potentia	os protocols to avoid al complications of ations and therapies
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Comments:											

Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT, multi-source feedback, oral boards, simulation

7. Disposition (PC7)

Establishes and implements a comprehensive disposition plan that uses appropriate consultation resources; patient education regarding diagnosis; treatment plan; medications; and time and location specific disposition instructions.

Level 1	1	Laval 2			Lavel 2			Laval 4			Level 5
Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Describes basic resources available for care of the emergency department patient	plan for	ates a specific follor r common ED com propriate resource on	plaints	educati treatmer review appoint patient Involve (e.g., Powork, Powork, Powordir manne Makes regardi dischar Correct patient of care	s appropriate reso CP, consultants, so PT/OT, financial aio nators) in a timely	nosis, on nt cated ources ocial d, care	plans or includin diagnos interver Engages	ates sufficient admis discharge instruction g future tic/therapeutic ntions for ED patien s patient or surrogately implement a dis	ons ts te to	develop enhance	vithin the institution to hospital systems that e safe patient disposition and es resource utilization
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Comments:	<i>)</i>	,		<i>)</i>			,			<u> </u>	

Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT, shift evaluations, simulation cases / Objective Structure Clinical Exam (OSCE), multi-source feedback, chart review

8. Multi-tasking (Task-switching) (PC8)

Employs task s	witching i	in an effic	cient and timely m	anner in c	order to m	nanage the ED						
Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Manages a sing patient amidst distractions		Task sw patients	itches between di	fferent	efficient	s task switching in t and timely manr o manage multiple	ner in	efficien	s task switching in ai t and timely manner o manage the ED		and time	task switching in an efficient ely manner in order to manage nder high volume or surge s
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Comments:												

Suggested Evaluation Methods: Simulation, SDOT, mock oral examination, multi-source feedback

9. General Approach to Procedures (PC9)

Performs the indicated procedure on all appropriate patients (including those who are uncooperative, at the extremes of age, hemodynamically unstable and those who have multiple co-morbidities, poorly defined anatomy, high risk for pain or procedural complications, sedation requirement), takes steps to avoid potential complications, and recognizes the outcome and/or complications resulting from the procedure

Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4		Level 5
Identifies pertinent anatomy and physiology for a specific procedure Uses appropriate Universal Precautions	inform monitor accord standar Knows anator anesth and po common process urgence landmar compliant and idea of the complian	ms patient assessment, of the consent and ensures oring equipment is in platance with patient safety ands indications, contraindications and procedural technology and the indicated commodure on a patient with many who has identifiable arks and a low-moderate ications ms post-procedural assemblifies any potential ications	ations, nt, nnique, r on oderate	initial proce Corre	rmines a backup strate I attempts to perform edure are unsuccessfu ectly interprets the res gnostic procedure	a I	on and featur landmor with Performance poten recognised to the contract of the	rms indicated proced y patients with challed res (e.g., poorly ident harks, at extremes of th co-morbid condition rms the indicated dure, takes steps to a tial complications, ar nizes the outcome ar lications resulting fro dure	enging ifiable age ons) avoid and and/or	Teaches procedural competency and corre mistakes
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: Procedural competency forms, checklist assessment of procedure and simulation lab performance, global ratings

10. Airway Management (PC10)

Performs airway management on all appropriate patients (including those who are uncooperative, at the extremes of age, hemodynamically unstable and those who have multiple co-morbidities, poorly defined anatomy, high risk for pain or procedural complications, sedation requirement), takes steps to avoid potential complications, and recognize the outcome and/or complications resulting from the procedure

Level 1	Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Describes upper airway anatomy Performs basic airway maneuvers or adjuncts (jaw thrust/chin lift/oral airway/nasopharyngeal airway) and ventilates/oxygenates patient using BVM	Describes elements of airway assessment and indications in the airway management Describes the pharmacology used for rapid sequence intuincluding specific indications contraindications Performs rapid sequence intupatients without adjuncts Confirms proper endotraches placement using multiple more	of agents bation and ubation in	making for employing indicated Performs in patient Implement management Employs a mechanic	rapid sequenc ts using airway nts post-intuba	e intubation adjuncts ation ethods of pased on	any circu avoid po recogniz complica procedu Perform intubatio Demons perform Uses adv	s a minimum of 3	steps to cions, and and/or com the		airway ment skills to are providers
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Comments:										

Suggested Evaluation Methods: Airway Management Competency Assessment Tool (CORD), Airway Management Assessment Cards, SDOT, checklist, procedure log, and simulation

11. Anesthesia and Acute Pain Management (PC11)

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		Level 4		Level 5
oiscusses with the patient indications, contraindications and cossible complications of ocal anesthesia erforms local anesthesia sing appropriate doses of ocal anesthetic and ppropriate technique to rovide skin to sub-dermal nesthesia for procedures	Knows the indications, contraindications, potential complications and appropriate doses of analgesic/sedative medications Knows the anatomic landmarks, indications, contraindications, potential complications and appropriate doses of local anesthetics used for regional anesthesia	Knows the indications, contraindications, poter complications and approduces of medications us procedural sedation Performs patient assess and discusses with the patient analgesic/sedative med and administers in the rappropriate dose and response to the manalgesic dose and respons	ntial providing least rist minimal selective medical ment patient cation most	ns procedural sedationing effective sedation with the sedation with the sedation with the sedations and all recovery time through the dosing, route and chotions	th the ma	velops pain nagement tocols/care plans
		Performs pre-sedation assessment, obtains informed consecutive for procedural sedation Obtains informed consecurectly performs region anesthesia	ormed ropriate ications nt and			
		Ensures appropriate mo of patients during proce sedation	_			
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: Procedural competency forms, checklist assessment of procedure and simulation lab performance, global ratings, patient survey, chart review

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12. Other Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures: Goal-directed Focused Ultrasound (Diagnostic / Procedural) (PC12)

Uses goal-directed focused Ultrasound for the bedside diagnostic evaluation of emergency medical conditions and diagnoses, resuscitation of the acutely ill or injured patient, and procedural guidance

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Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Describes the indications for emergency ultrasound	images a probe fo ultrasou	how to optimize uland Identifies the progression of the focuse and applications	oper	ultrasou	ns goal-directed focu und exams ly interprets acquire			s a minimum of 150 fond examinations	ocused	skills to in echo, TEE and testic	ultrasonography iclude: advanced , bowel, adnexal cular pathology, and ial Doppler
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Comments:									•		

Suggested Evaluation Methods: OSCE, SDOT, videotape review, written examination, checklist

13. Other Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures: Wound Management (PC13)

Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Prepares a simple wound for suturing (identify appropriate suture material, anesthetize wound and irrigate) Demonstrates sterile technique Places a simple interrupted suture	clearly of (e.g., stollaceration) Classified depth a Compar of wour (adhesis apposit Identified antibiot	edical terminology describe/classify a ellate, abrasion, aron, deep vs superions burns with respind body surface a res and contrasts rad management ves, steri-strips, hasion, staples) es wounds that recics or tetanus properties on appent management of the street of t	wound vulsion, ficial) ect to rea modes air quire phylaxis ropriate	repairs repair, of Consolidentific high rislextensive	es wounds that makes and require more ve evaluation (exaltrasound, and/or	s narily e use nay be	bleeding technique ligation, topical he tournique Repairs for cosn as eyelide Describe	s hemostasis in a g wound using advaues such as: cautery deep suture, inject nemostatic agents, auet wounds that are higher complications d margin, nose, ear) es the indications for perform an escharo	ion, and gh risk (such		s advanced wound repairs, such n repairs and skin flaps
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: Direct observation, procedure checklist, medical knowledge quiz, portfolio, global ratings, procedure log

14. Other Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures: Vascular Access (PC14)

Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Performs a venipuncture Places a peripheral intravenous line Performs an arterial puncture	contrain undesir complicity vascular linserts. Assesse conjunction anatom select ticentral linserts using uliprecauti Confirm of central	es the indications, ndications, anticipal able outcomes and cations for the varior access modalities an arterial catheter es the indications in ction with the patient hy/pathophysiology he optimal site for venous catheter a central venous catheter as appropriate placeral venous catheter as intraosseous accents intraosseous accents intraosseous accents and catheter as intraosseous accents and catheter	ent and a atheter ersal	cathete when a Places a deep ve	a central venous er without ultrasou ppropriate an ultrasound guid ein catheter (e.g., II, and cephalic vei	led basilic,	venous l	fully performs 20 cer ines y gains venous acce with difficult vascul	te ss in	eaches ac	dvanced vascular access
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: Knowledge assessment using MCQ, checklist driven task analysis, procedure log

15. Medical Knowledge (MK)

Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Passes initial national licensing examinations (e.g., USMLE Step Step 2 or COMLE) and Level 2)	tions 1 and	self-asse training Complet training and/or a	develops and composite the composite that the compo	on the in-	percenta training	trates improvemen age correct on the i examination or ma atable percentile ra	n- intains	training high like national Successf residence examina Passes fi	a score on the annual examination that indiction the state of the state	ns ective ents	Meets all for the AE of Certific	EM certifying ions the requirements EM Maintenance ration program set rational certifying
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Comments:	O				,						,	

Suggested Evaluation Methods: National licensing examinations (USMLE, COMLEX), national in-training examination (developed by ABEM & AOA), CORD Question & Answer Bank tests, MedChallenger, local residency examinations

16. Professional values (PROF1)

Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			Level 4		Level 5		
Demonstrates behavior conveys caring, hones genuine interest and olerance when intera vith a diverse popular patients and families	ety,	under impor integrand re exhibit consist communications is trusting and the communication of	enstrates an estanding of the estanding of the estance of compassion eity, respect, sensitivities and estance attitudes estently in enon/uncomplicated estance attions	ty	beliefs medica manag beliefs relation Develo when p	and values imposite consists of the consists of the consists of the consists of the constitution of the co	dical care re plans ral	appro appro strate consis best in situat Effect ethica	ops and applies a consist opriate approach to evaluate to evaluate to intervene that stently prioritizes the paranterest in all relationship ions ively analyzes and manalissues in complicated a enging clinical situations	uating rriers and tient's ps and ages and	organiza protect	s institutional and itional strategies to and maintain onal and bioethical es	
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: Direct observation, SDOT, portfolio, simulation, oral board, multi-source feedback, global ratings

17. Accountability (PROF2)

Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4		Level 5
Demonstrates basic professional responsibiliti such as timely reporting fouty, appropriate dress/grooming, rested arready to work, delivery of patient care as a functional physician Maintains patient confider Uses social media ethicall responsibly Adheres to professional responsibilities, such as conference attendance, tichart completion, duty horeporting, procedure reporting, procedure reporting.	es physicissleep had Consist knowle frequer asks for Demonalertne y and fatigue	es basic principles of an wellness, including ygiene ently recognizes limits dge in common and at clinical situations and assistance strates knowledge of ss management and mitigation principles	kno cor dev of bes	ensistently recognizes limits of owledge in uncommon and mplicated clinical situations; evelops and implements plans for est possible patient care ecognizes and avoids inappropria fluences of marketing and vertizing	r the	Can form a plan to address impairment in one's self or a colleague, in a professional and confidential manner Manages medical errors according to principles of responsibility and accountability in accordance with institutional policy	organ to imp insigh manap profes respon Trains educa respon	physicians and tors regarding nsibility, wellness, e, and physician
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: Direct observation, SDOT, portfolio, simulation, oral boards, multi-source feedback, global ratings

18. Patient Centered Communication (ICS1)

Demonstrates interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients and their families. Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Establishes rapport with Elicits patients' reasons for seeking Manages the expectations of those Uses flexible communication Teaches communication and demonstrate health care and expectations from who receive care in the ED and uses and conflict management strategies and adjusts them based empathy toward patients the ED visit communication methods that on the clinical situation to resolve skills and their families minimize the potential for stress, specific ED challenges, such as drug Negotiates and manages simple conflict, and misunderstanding seeking behavior, delivering bad Participates in review and Listens effectively to patient/family-related conflicts news, unexpected outcomes, counsel of colleagues with patients and their Effectively communicates with medical errors, and high risk refusalcommunication deficiencies families vulnerable populations, including of-care patients both patients at risk and their families 0 0 Comments:

Suggested Evaluation Methods: Direct observation, SDOT, simulation, multi-source feedback, OSCE, global ratings, oral boards

19. Team Management (ICS2)

Leads patient-centered care teams, ensuring effective communication and mutual respect among members of the team. Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Recommends changes in team Participates as a member Communicates pertinent Develops working relationships Participates in and leads across specialties and with ancillary of a patient care team information to emergency physicians performance as necessary for interdepartmental groups in and other healthcare colleagues staff optimal efficiency the patient setting and in collaborative meetings Ensures transitions of care are Uses flexible communication outside of the patient care accurately and efficiently strategies to resolve specific ED setting communicated challenges such as difficulties with Ensures clear communication and consultants and other health care Designs patient care teams respect among team members providers and evaluates their performance Communicates with out-of-hospital and nonmedical personnel, such as Seeks leadership police, media, and hospital opportunities within administrators professional organizations 0 \bigcirc 0 \bigcirc Comments:

Suggested Evaluation Methods: Direct observation, SDOT, simulation, multi-source feedback, OSCE, global ratings, oral boards

20. Practice-based Performance Improvement (PBLI)

Level 1		Level 2		Level 3				Level 4	Level 5		
Describes basic principles of evidence-based medicine	Perforn	ns patient follow-up		identifimprovelearning learning by evaluassess Demoi critical literationedic	ms self-assessment to by areas for continued solvement and implementing plans areas perform luating feedback and ment areas the ability to ally appraise scientific ture and apply evidence to improve one's lual performance	ance	Demo clinica retriev	es performance impro odologies instrates evidence-ba il practice and inform val mastery ipates in a process vement plan to optir ce	sed ation	Independently to evidence-based and information techniques	medicine
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT, simulation, global ratings, checklist or ratings of portfolio work products, including a literature review, Vanderbilt matrix evaluation of a clinical issue, critical appraisal

21. Patient Safety (SBP1)

Level 1		Level 2		Level 3				Level 4		Level 5	
Adheres to standards f maintenance of a safe working environment Describes medical erro and adverse events	pra 'ca	outinely uses basic pat actices, such as time-c alls for help'	-	Emplo SBAR), that op Situati Assess Appro resour	bes patient safety cond ys processes (e.g., che personnel, and techno ptimize patient safety on – Background – ment – Recommendat priately uses system res to improve both pand medical knowledge	cklists, plogies (SBAR= ion)	proces optimi safety Leads debrie M&M Identif breakd comm	ipates in an institution in the second particle and parti	n to patient as code alysis, or ormance the	Uses analytical tools assess healthcare quand safety and reass quality improvemen programs for effecti for patients and for populations Develops and evaluate measures of profess performance and primprovement and implements them to improve departmen practice	ality sess t veness ates ional ocess
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: SDOT, simulation, global ratings, multi-source feedback, portfolio work products, including a QI project

22. Systems-based Management (SBP2)

Participates in strategies to improve healthcare delivery and flow. Demonstrates an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care.

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Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Describes members of ED team (e.g., nurses, technicians, and security)	assist in p	s institutional resources patient care tes in patient satisfactio s	n e	emonst effective	cost-effective care rates the ability to drawn other resource provide optimal he	s in the	logistics of and decr (e.g., rap registrati testing, r standard observat Recomm patients' improved Coordina optimize	tes in processes and to improve patient flease turnaround timid triage, bedside ion, Fast Tracks, bed apid treatment units protocols, and ion units) ends strategies by waccess to care can be desired the care can be desired the care for ted medical situation.	low nes side ss, which ne	metric from practices, a Develops in departmen process and problems Addresses customer n	partmental flow in benchmarks, best and dash boards internal and external tal solutions to dispersational internal differing internal staff, EMS, and anity
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Comments:				·							

Suggested Evaluation Methods: Direct observation-SDOT, chart review, global ratings, billing records, simulation, multi-source feedback, and outcome data including throughput numbers and patients per hour

23. Technology (SBP3)

Level 1		Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5
Uses the Electronic Health Record (EHR) to order tests, medications and document notes, and respond to alerts Reviews medications for patients	comple confus Effecti	es that medical records are ete, with attention to prevent sion and error vely and ethically uses techno tient care, medical communical arning	ology	reliand inform patien	nizes the risk of uter shortcuts and ce upon computer nation on accurate it care and nentation			decision support systen as applicable in institut			mends systems re-design proved computerized ses
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Suggested Evaluation Methods: Direct observation-SDOT, chart review, global ratings, billing records, simulation, multi-source feedback