# Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Milestones

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education



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# Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Milestones

The Milestones are designed only for use in evaluation of fellow's in the context of their participation in ACGME-accredited fellowship programs. The Milestones provide a framework for the assessment of the development of the fellow 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.

## **Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Milestones**

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American Board of Ophthalmology

American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

ACGME Review Committee for Ophthalmology

### **Understanding Milestone Levels and Reporting**

This document presents the Milestones, which programs use in a semi-annual review of fellow performance, and then report to the ACGME. Milestones are knowledge, skills, attitudes, and other attributes for each of the ACGME Competencies organized in a developmental framework. The narrative descriptions are targets for fellow performance throughout their educational program.

Milestones are arranged into levels. Tracking from Level 1 to Level 5 is synonymous with moving from novice to expert fellow in the specialty or subspecialty. For each reporting period, the Clinical Competency Committee will review the completed evaluations to select the milestone levels that best describe each learner's current performance, abilities, and attributes for each subcompetency.

These levels *do not* correspond with post-graduate year of education. Depending on previous experience, a junior fellow may achieve higher levels early in his/her educational program just as a senior fellow may be at a lower level later in his/her educational program. There is no predetermined timing for a fellow to attain any particular level. Fellows may also regress in achievement of their milestones. This may happen for many reasons, such as over scoring in a previous review, a disjointed experience in a particular procedure, or a significant act by the fellow.

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

### **Additional Notes**

Level 4 is designed as a graduation *goal* but *does not* represent a graduation *requirement*. Making decisions about readiness for graduation and unsupervised practice is the purview of the program director. Level 5 is designed to represent an expert fellow whose achievements in a subcompetency are greater than the expectation. Milestones are primarily designed for formative, developmental purposes to support continuous quality improvement for individual learners, education programs, and the specialty. The ACGME and its partners will continue to evaluate and perform research on the Milestones to assess their impact and value.

Examples are provided for some milestones within this document. Please note: 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 ACGME supervision guidelines as described in the Program Requirements, as well as to institutional and program policies. For example, a fellow who performs a procedure independently must, at a minimum, be supervised through oversight.

Other resources are available on the Milestones page of each specialty section of the ACGME website. On <a href="https://www.acgme.org">www.acgme.org</a>, choose the applicable specialty under the "Specialties" menu, then select the "Milestones" link in the lower navigation bar.

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 fellow's performance on the milestones for each sub-competency will be indicated by selecting the level of milestones that best describes that fellow's performance in relation to those milestones.

Systems-Based Practice 2: System Navigation for Patient-Centered Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates knowledge of care coordination	Coordinates care of patients in routine clinical situations effectively using the roles of the interprofessional teams	Coordinates care of patients in complex clinical situations effectively using the roles of their interprofessional teams	Teaches effective coordination of patient-centered care among different disciplines and specialties to junior members of the team	Analyzes the process of care coordination and leads in the design and implementation of improvements
Identifies key elements for safe and effective transitions of care and hand-offs	Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in routine clinical situations	Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in complex clinical situations	Advocates for safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs within and across health care delivery systems	Improves quality of transitions of care within and across health care delivery systems to optimize patient outcomes
Demonstrates knowledge of the role of the physician in addressing community health needs and disparities	Demonstrates knowledge of local population and community health needs and disparities	Identifies specific local health needs and disparities related to oculoplastic care	Uses local resources effectively to meet the needs of a patient population and community	Participates in changing and adapting practice to provide for the needs of specific populations
Comments:	Comments:  Not Yet Completed Level 1			
Selecting a respo			nse box on the line in	
middle of a level implies that			dicates that milestone	es
	milestones in that level and in lower levels have been substantially		ve been substantially well as <b>some</b>	
demonstrated.	Substantially	milestones in the l		

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Patient Care 1: Orbital Surgery				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies need for orbital surgery and develops a treatment plan for a simple orbital surgery case, with assistance	Develops a treatment plan for a routine orbital surgery case	Develops a treatment plan for moderately complex orbital surgery	Develops a treatment plan for a complex or multi-disciplinary orbital surgery	Develops a treatment plan for innovative orbital surgery
Manages care of straightforward orbital surgery patients, with assistance	Performs critical aspects of simple orbital surgery (e.g., anterior orbitotomy, orbital blow out fracture repair with implant)	Performs critical aspects of moderately complex orbital surgery (e.g., orbital decompression)	Performs critical aspects of complex orbital surgery (e.g., lateral orbitotomy, intraconal tumor removal)	Performs critical aspects of complex revision or multi-disciplinary orbital surgery
	Manages routine post- operative care and complications	Identifies and formulates a plan for surgical management of post- operative care and complications of orbital surgery	Performs critical aspects of surgical management for routine post-operative care and complications of orbital surgery	Performs critical aspects of the surgical management for post-operative care and complications of complex revision or multidisciplinary orbital surgery
Comments:  Not Yet Completed Level 1 Not Yet Assessable				

Patient Care 2: Lacrimal Level 1	Surgery Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies need for lacrimal surgery and develops a treatment plan for straight forward lacrimal surgery cases, such as silicone intubation	Develops a treatment plan for routine procedures (e.g., dacryocystorhinostomy (DCR), silicone intubation)	Develops a treatment plan for moderately complex lacrimal surgery (e.g., conjunctivodacryocystorhi nostomy (CDCR), traumatic, congenital anomalies)	Develops a treatment plan for complex and/or multi-disciplinary or endoscopic sinus DCR surgery and/or high-risk DCR surgery (e.g., post radiation or chemotherapy)	Develops a treatment plan for innovative lacrimal surgery
Manages care of straightforward lacrimal surgery patients, with assistance	Performs critical aspects of straight forward lacrimal surgery	Performs critical aspects of moderately complex lacrimal surgery	Performs critical aspects of complex revision or high-risk lacrimal surgery	Performs and adopts innovative lacrimal surgery techniques to improve outcomes
	Manages routine post- operative care and complications of lacrimal surgery	Identifies and formulates a plan for surgical management of routine post-operative care and complications of lacrimal surgery	Performs critical aspects of surgical management for more complex post-operative care and complications of lacrimal surgery	Contributes to multi- disciplinary and inter- disciplinary teams to improve outcomes for surgical procedures involving the lacrimal apparatus
Comments:  Not Yet Completed Level 1  Not Yet Assessable				

Patient Care 3: Periocular Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies the need for various types of eyelid surgery and develops a treatment plan for straightforward eyelid surgery cases	Develops a treatment plan for specific eyelid procedures and discusses indications and alternative surgical procedures for various conditions	Develops a treatment plan for moderately complex eyelid surgery (e.g., eyelid sharing reconstruction, large defects, complex aesthetic unit surgery)	Develops a treatment plan for complex and/or multi-disciplinary management or revision surgery for eyelid conditions (e.g., large periocular flaps, cervicofacial flaps, vascular pedicle flaps)	Develops a treatment plan for innovative eyelid surgery
Manages care of straightforward eyelid surgery (e.g., tumors, malposition, congenital anomalies), with assistance	Performs critical aspects of routine eyelid surgical procedures	Performs critical aspects of moderately complex eyelid surgical procedures	Performs critical aspects of complex revision or multi-unit reconstruction involving eyelid/face/forehead	Performs and adopts innovative procedures for eyelid diseases and conditions to improve functional and aesthetic outcomes and improve safety
	Manages routine post- operative care and complications of eyelid surgery	Identifies and formulates a plan for surgical management of routine post-operative care and complications surgical procedures involving eyelids	Performs critical aspects of surgical management for more complex post-operative care and complications of surgical procedures involving the eyelid/face	Contributes to multi- disciplinary and inter- disciplinary teams to improve outcomes in patients with surgical procedures involving the eyelid/face
Comments:  Not Yet Completed Level 1  Not Yet Assessable				

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Patient Care 4: Aesthetic Procedures					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Identifies the need for minor aesthetic procedures, such as Botox and neuromodulators	Develops a treatment plan for routine aesthetic procedures	Develops a treatment plan for moderately complex oculofacial aesthetic surgery (e.g., endoscopic brow lifts and lower lid blepharoplasty)	Develops a treatment plan for complex aesthetic oculofacial surgery (e.g., face lifts, open brow lifts, revision blepharoplasty)	Develops a treatment plan for complex aesthetic revision or oculofacial surgery beyond the orbit (e.g., rhinoplasty, neck liposuction)	
Manages care of straightforward minor aesthetic procedures (e.g., Botox, fillers, chemical peels)	Performs critical aspects of minor in office aesthetic procedures	Performs critical aspects of moderately complex aesthetic surgery (e.g., lower eyelid blepharoplasty, rhytidectomy)	Performs critical aspects of complex aesthetic oculofacial surgery	Performs and adopts new surgical techniques that may be complementary to traditional oculofacial plastic surgery	
	Manages routine post- operative care and complications for minor periocular aesthetic procedures	Identifies and formulates a plan for surgical management of post-operative complications of periocular aesthetic surgery of moderate complexity	Performs critical aspects of surgical management for routine post- operative complications of complex aesthetic oculofacial surgery	Contributes to multi- disciplinary and inter- disciplinary teams to improve outcomes in patients with oculofacial and facial anomalies	
Comments:	Comments:  Not Yet Completed Level 1 Not Yet Assessable				

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Medical Knowledge 1: Anatomy and Pathophysiology				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates essential knowledge of eyelid, orbital, and lacrimal anatomy	Demonstrates knowledge of the anatomic and pathophysiologic changes of commonly diagnosed oculofacial disorders (e.g., ptosis, entropion, ectropion)	Demonstrates essential knowledge of facial, nasal, sinus, head, and neck anatomy and pathophysiology as they relate to the orbit and adnexa	Demonstrates knowledge of complex anatomy and pathophysiology as they relate to oculofacial disorders	Publishes original research on anatomy and pathophysiology in a peer-review journal
Comments:			Not Yet C Not Yet A	ompleted Level 1 ssessable

Medical Knowledge 2: Di	iagnosis			
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies resources to generate a focused differential for common oculofacial disorder (e.g., eyelid, orbital, lacrimal)	Generates a comprehensive differential diagnosis based on patient symptoms and history	Generates refined differential based on patient symptoms, history, and examination findings, distinguishing between common and uncommon conditions	Generates a probabilistic differential diagnosis in patients with multiple ocular and medical comorbidities; modifies likely differential with new information from additional testing	Recognizes, self-reflects on, and shares experiences to educate others on factors that contributed to a missed diagnosis or faulty clinical reasoning (e.g., publication, curriculum development)
Generates a basic differential diagnosis based on patient symptoms and history	Selects additional diagnostic testing to distinguish between conditions on the differential	Articulates the rationale for ordering diagnostic testing in hierarchical fashion based on a probabilistic differential	Independently interprets diagnostic testing	
Comments:  Not Yet Completed Level 1  Not Yet Assessable				

Systems-Based Practice 1: Patient Safety and Quality Improvement				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates knowledge of common patient safety events	Identifies system factors that lead to patient safety events	Participates in analysis of patient safety events (simulated or actual)	Conducts analysis of patient safety events and offers error prevention strategies (simulated or actual)	Actively engages teams and processes to modify systems to prevent patient safety events
Demonstrates knowledge of how to report patient safety events	Reports patient safety events through institutional reporting systems (simulated or actual)	Participates in disclosure of patient safety events to patients and their families (simulated or actual)	Discloses patient safety events to patients and their families (simulated or actual)	Role models or mentors others in the disclosure of patient safety events
Demonstrates knowledge of basic quality improvement methodologies and metrics	Describes local quality improvement initiatives (e.g., eye protection for high-risk activities, diabetic eye screening)	Participates in local quality improvement initiatives	Demonstrates the skills required to identify, develop, implement, and analyze a quality improvement project	Creates, implements, and assesses quality improvement initiatives at the institutional or community level
Comments:			Not Yet C	ompleted Level 1

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates knowledge of care coordination	Coordinates care of patients in routine clinical situations effectively using the roles of the interprofessional team members	Coordinates care of patients in complex clinical situations effectively using the roles of their interprofessional teams	Teaches effective coordination of patient-centered care among different disciplines and specialties to junior members of the team	Analyzes the process of care coordination and leads in the design and implementation of improvements
Identifies key elements for safe and effective transitions of care and hand-offs	Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in routine clinical situations	Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in complex clinical situations	Advocates for safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs within and across health care delivery systems	Improves quality of transitions of care within and across health care delivery systems to optimize patient outcomes
Demonstrates knowledge of the role of the physician in addressing community health needs and disparities	Demonstrates knowledge of the local population and community health needs and inequities	Identifies specific local health needs and inequities related to oculoplastic care	Uses local resources effectively to meet the needs of a patient population and community	Participates in changing and adapting practice to provide for the needs of specific populations

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Describes basic health care systems and access models (e.g., government, private, public, uninsured care)	Describes how different system types require the physician to deliver care effectively with available resources	Optimizes patient care given available resources	Advocates for patient care needs beyond patients' available resources (e.g., community resources, patient assistance resources, telehealth)	Participates in health policy advocacy activities
Demonstrates use of the electronic health record	Identifies the documentation required for billing and coding compliance	Describes knowledge domains for effective transition to practice (e.g., information technology, legal, billing and coding)	Demonstrates administrative knowledge needed for transition to practice (e.g., contract negotiations, malpractice insurance, government regulation, compliance)	Analyzes individual practice patterns and professional requirements in preparation for practice

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement 1: Evidence-Based and Informed Practice				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates how to access and use available evidence and incorporate patient preferences and values to care for a routine patient	Articulates clinical questions and elicits patient preferences and values to guide evidence-based care	Locates and applies the best available evidence, integrated with patient preference, to the care of complex patients	Critically appraises and applies evidence even in the face of uncertainty and conflicting evidence to guide care, tailored to the individual patient	Coaches others to critically appraise and apply evidence for complex patients, and/or participates in the development of patient care guidelines
Comments:			Not Yet C	Completed Level 1

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement 2: Reflective Practice and Commitment to Personal Growth				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Accepts responsibility for personal and professional development by establishing goals; actively seeks opportunities to improve	Demonstrates openness to performance data (feedback and other input) to inform goals; designs and implements a learning plan, with guidance	Seeks performance data and accepts it with responsibility and equipoise; demonstrates implementation of a learning plan	Uses performance data to measure the effectiveness of the learning plan and, when necessary, improves it	Facilitates the design and implementation of learning plans for others
Identifies the factors that contribute to gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Analyzes and reflects on the factors that contribute to gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Analyzes, reflects on, and institutes behavioral change(s) to narrow the gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Challenges assumptions and considers alternatives in narrowing the gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Coaches others on reflective practice
Comments:  Not Yet Completed Level 1				

Professionalism 1: Profe	ssional Behavior and Ethic	cal Principles		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies and describes potential triggers for professionalism lapses	Demonstrates insight into professional behavior in routine situations	Demonstrates professional behavior in complex or stressful situations	Recognizes situations that may trigger professionalism lapses and intervenes to prevent lapses in oneself and others	Coaches others when their behavior fails to meet professional expectations
Describes when and how to appropriately report professionalism lapses, including strategies for addressing common barriers	Takes responsibility for one's own professionalism lapses	Recognizes the need to seek help in managing and resolving complex ethical situations	Recognizes and uses appropriate resources for managing and resolving ethical dilemmas as needed (e.g., ethics consultations, literature	Identifies and seeks to address system-level factors that induce or exacerbate ethical problems or impede their resolution
Demonstrates knowledge of the ethical principles underlying informed consent, surrogate decision making, advance directives, confidentiality, error disclosure, stewardship of limited resources, and related topics	Analyzes straightforward situations using ethical principles	Analyzes complex situations using ethical principles	review, risk management/legal consultation)	
Comments:			Not Yet C	ompleted Level 1
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Professionalism 2: Acco	untability/Conscientiousne	ess		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Takes responsibility for failure to complete tasks and responsibilities, identifies potential contributing factors, and describes strategies for ensuring timely task completion in the future	Performs tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with attention to detail in routine situations	Performs tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with attention to detail in complex or stressful situations	Recognizes situations that may impact others' ability to complete tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner	Takes ownership of system outcomes and attempts to implement changes at a systems level to advance the goals of professional accountability
Responds promptly to requests or reminders to complete tasks and responsibilities	Recognizes situations that may impact one's own ability to complete tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner	Recognizes detrimental consequences when tasks and responsibilities are not completed in a timely manner (e.g., team members, compliance)	Proactively implements strategies to ensure that the needs of patients, teams, and systems are met	
Comments:			Not Yet C	ompleted Level 1

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Recognizes status of personal and professional well-being, with assistance  Recognizes limits in the knowledge/skills of oneself and/or team members, with assistance	Independently recognizes status of personal and professional well-being  Independently recognizes limits in the knowledge/ skills of oneself and/or team members; demonstrates appropriate help-seeking behaviors for oneself or others	With assistance, proposes a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being  With assistance, proposes a plan to improve knowledge/skills of oneself and/or team members	Independently develops a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being  Independently develops a plan to improve the knowledge/skills of oneself and/or team members	Coaches others when emotional responses or limitations in knowledge/skills do not meet professional expectations

This subcompetency is not intended to evaluate a fellow's well-being, but to ensure each fellow has the fundamental knowledge of factors that impact well-being, the mechanisms by which those factors impact well-being, and available resources and tools to improve well-being.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Uses language and non- verbal behavior to demonstrate respect and establish rapport	Establishes a therapeutic relationship in straightforward encounters using active listening and clear language	Establishes a therapeutic relationship in challenging patient encounters (e.g., breaking bad news)	Easily establishes therapeutic relationships, with attention to the patient's/patient's family's concerns and context, regardless of complexity	Mentors others in situational awareness and critical self-reflection to consistently develop positive therapeutic relationships
Identifies barriers to effective communication (e.g., health literacy, language, disability, cultural differences) while accurately communicating one's own role in the health care system	Addresses barriers to effective communication	When prompted, reflects on personal biases while attempting to minimize communication barriers	Role models self- awareness to minimize communication barriers	

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Uses language that values all members of the health care team	Communicates information effectively and uses active listening with all health care team members	Communicates concerns to the team and other learners	Role models flexible communication strategies that value input from all health care team members, resolving conflict when needed	
Accepts feedback on performance from all members of the health care team (e.g., nurses, staff members, peers)	Solicits feedback on performance as a member of the health care team	Provides feedback and constructive criticism to peers and other learners	Provides feedback and constructive criticism to superiors	Facilitates regular health care team-based feedback in complex situations

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Accurately records information in the electronic health record (EHR)	Demonstrates organized diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning through notes in the EHR	Communicates clearly and concisely, including anticipatory guidance, in the EHR	Provides feedback to improve others' written communication	
Is aware of the role of communication in patient safety and privacy; safeguards patient personal health information	Appropriately selects forms of communication (e.g., telephone versus text) to promote patient safety and privacy	Avoids creating or propagating errors in the EHR through accurate use of documentation tools	Provides feedback and constructive criticism regarding compliance with patient privacy and safety requirements	Facilitates dialogue regarding systems issues among larger community stakeholders (institution, health care system, field)
Is aware of one's responsibility to report system deficiencies	Identifies appropriate channels to communicate system deficiencies	Uses appropriate channels to communicate system deficiencies	Offers clear and constructive suggestions to address system deficiencies	Guides departmental or institutional communication around policies and procedures