

Pediatrics Milestones

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education



Implementation Date: July 1, 2021 Second Revision: March 2021 First Revision: December 2012

Pediatrics Milestones

The Milestones are designed only for use in evaluation of residents in the context of their participation in ACGME-accredited residency programs. The Milestones provide a framework for the assessment of the development of the resident in key dimensions of the elements of physician competence 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.

Pediatrics Milestones

Work Group

Marsha Anderson, MD

Courtney Brantley, MD

April Buchanan, MD

Ann Burke, MD

Carol Carraccio, MD

Jennifer Chen, MD

Abhay Dandekar, MD

Stephanie Dewar, MD

Jennifer Di Rocco, DO, MEd

Maya Eady, MD

Laura Edgar, EdD, CAE

John Frohna, MD, MPH

Bahareh Gordon, MD, MS

Mary Fran Hazinski, RN, MSN, FAAN, FAHA

Mel Heyman, MD, MPH

Oriaku Kas-Osoka, MD, MEd

Kristin Koehn, MD, MACM

Emily Machogu, MD

Brian May, MD, MEd

Judy-April Oparaji, MD, RD

Kris Rooney, MD

Johannah Scheurer, MD

Daniel Schumacher, MD

Judith S. Shaw, EdD, MPH, RN

David Turner, MD

Anne Warwick, MD, MPH

Kimberly Wolf, DO

The ACGME would like to thank the following organizations for their continued support in the development of the Milestones:

American Board of Pediatrics
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of Osteopathic Directors and Medical Educators
Association of Pediatric Program Directors
Council of Pediatric Subspecialties
Review Committee for Pediatrics

Understanding Milestone Levels and Reporting

This document presents the Milestones, which programs use in a semi-annual review of resident 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 resident 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 resident 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 resident may achieve higher levels early in his/her educational program just as a senior resident may be at a lower level later in his/her educational program. There is no predetermined timing for a resident to attain any particular level. Residents 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 resident.

Selection of a level implies the resident 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. Furthermore, Milestones 2.0 include revisions and changes that preclude using Milestones as a sole assessment in high-stakes decisions (i.e., determination of eligibility for certification or credentialing). Level 5 is designed to represent an expert resident 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.

A Supplemental Guide is also available to provide the intent of each subcompetency, examples for each level, assessment methods or tools, and other available resources. The Supplemental Guide, like examples contained within the Milestones, is designed only to assist the program director and Clinical Competency Committee, and is not meant to demonstrate any required element or outcome.

Supplemental Guides and other resources are available on the Milestones page of each specialty section of the ACGME website. On www.acgme.org, 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 resident's performance on the milestones for each sub-competency will be indicated by selecting the level of milestones that best describes that resident's performance in relation to those milestones.

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 (actual or simulated)	Participates in disclosure of patient safety events to patients and families (simulated or actual)	Discloses patient safety events to patients and families (simulated or actual)	Role models or mentors others in the disclosure of patient safety events
Comments:			Not Yet C	ompleted Level 1
Selecting a resp middle of a level milestones in that levels have been demonstrated.	implies that at level and in lower	between leve in lower leve demonstrate	esponse box on the line els indicates that milesto ls have been substantia d as well as some n the higher level(s).	ones

Patient Care 1: History					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Gathers information strictly following a template	Adapts template to filter and prioritize pertinent positives and negatives based on broad diagnostic categories or possible diagnoses	Filters, prioritizes, and synthesizes the history to develop a differential diagnosis in real-time for uncomplicated or typical presentations	Filters, prioritizes, and synthesizes the history to develop a differential diagnosis in real time for complicated or atypical presentations	Recognizes and probes subtle clues from patients and families; distinguishes nuances among diagnoses to efficiently drive further information gathering	
Comments:			Not Yet C Not Yet A	ompleted Level 1	

Patient Care 2: Physical Exam				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Performs fundamental physical examination	Performs complete physical examination and identifies variants and abnormal findings	Performs complete or focused physical examination, as indicated, and interprets normal variants and abnormal findings	Performs complete or focused physical examination, as indicated, and selects advanced maneuvers to distinguish between diagnoses	Detects, pursues, and integrates key physical examination findings to distinguish nuances among competing, often similar diagnoses
Performs a rote physical examination using a strict head-to-toe approach	Performs a physical examination considering appropriate adaptation for age and development	Performs a physical examination with consistent use of a developmentally appropriate approach	Performs a physical examination using strategies to maximize patient cooperation and comfort	Performs a physical examination that consistently and positively engages the patient
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1 Not Yet Assessable				

Patient Care 3: Organize and Prioritize Patient Care					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Completes tasks for an individual patient, when prompted	Organizes patient care responsibilities by focusing on individual (rather than multiple) patients	Organizes and prioritizes the simultaneous care of patients with efficiency	Organizes, prioritizes, and delegates patient care responsibilities even when patient volume approaches the capacity of the individual or facility; anticipates and triages urgent and emergent issues	Serves as a role model and coach for patient care responsibilities	
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1 Not Yet Assessable					

Patient Care 4: Clinical Reasoning					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Presents clinical facts (e.g., history, exam, tests, consultations) in the order they were elicited	Generates an unfocused differential diagnosis based on the clinical facts	Organizes clinical facts to compare and contrast diagnoses being considered, resulting in a prioritized differential diagnosis	Integrates clinical facts into a unifying diagnosis(es); reappraises in real time to avoid diagnostic error	Role models and coaches the organization of clinical facts to develop a prioritized differential diagnosis, including life threatening diagnoses, atypical presentations, and complex clinical presentations	
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1 Not Yet Assessable					

Patient Care 5: Patient Management				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Reports management plans developed by others	Participates in the creation of management plans	Develops an interdisciplinary management plan for common and typical diagnoses	Develops and implements informed management plans for complicated and atypical diagnoses, with the ability to modify plans as necessary	Serves as a role model and coach for development of management plans for complicated and atypical diagnoses, with the ability to modify plans as necessary
Comments				
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1 Not Yet Assessable				

Medical Knowledge 1: Clinical Knowledge					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Demonstrates basic medical knowledge	Links basic medical knowledge to clinical scenarios	Applies medical knowledge to common and typical scenarios to guide patient care	Integrates a breadth of medical knowledge that includes complicated and atypical conditions to guide patient care	Teaches at multiple levels, drawing from a breadth of medical knowledge that spans the continuum of simple to complex problems	
Comments:					
			Not Yet C Not Yet A	ompleted Level 1	

Medical Knowledge 2: Diagnostic Evaluation				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Lists basic evaluation (e.g., diagnostic testing and consultation) for common diagnoses, with prompting	Recommends broad evaluation based on an unfocused differential diagnosis	Recommends focused evaluation based on a prioritized differential diagnosis	Prioritizes and optimizes evaluation based on risks, benefits, indications, and alternatives to clarify the diagnosis(es)	Educates others about risks, benefits, indications, and alternatives to guide diagnostic decision making
Reports results of diagnostic studies	Identifies clinically significant diagnostic study results, with guidance	Interprets clinical significance of diagnostic study results	Interprets clinical significance of diagnostic study results while considering study limitations	Teaches others to interpret clinically significant results and consider study limitations
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1 Not Yet Assessable				

Systems-Based Practice 1: Patient Safety				
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 families (simulated or actual)	Discloses patient safety events to patients and families (simulated or actual)	Role models or mentors others in the disclosure of patient safety events
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1				

Systems-Based Practice 2: Quality Improvement					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Demonstrates knowledge of basic quality improvement methodologies and metrics	Describes local quality improvement initiatives (e.g., community vaccination rate, infection rate, smoking cessation)	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
Lists the various interprofessional individuals involved in the patient's care coordination	Coordinates care of patients in routine clinical situations, incorporating interprofessional teams with consideration of patient and family needs	Coordinates care of patients in complex clinical situations, effectively utilizing the roles of interprofessional teams, and incorporating patient and family needs and goals	Coordinates interprofessional, patient-centered care among different disciplines and specialties, actively assisting families in navigating the health- care system	Coaches others in interprofessional, patient-centered care coordination

Systems-Based Practice 4: System Navigation for Patient-Centered Care – Transitions in Care				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Uses a standard template for transitions of care/hand-offs	Adapts a standard template, recognizing key elements for 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, and ensures closed-loop communication	Performs and advocates for safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs within and across health care delivery systems, including transitions to adult care	Coaches others in improving transitions of care within and across health care delivery systems to optimize patient outcomes
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1				

Systems-Based Practice 5: Population and Community Health					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Demonstrates awareness of population and community health needs and disparities	Identifies specific population and community health needs and disparities; identifies local resources	Uses local resources effectively to meet the needs and reduce health disparities of a patient population and community	Adapts practice to provide for the needs of and reduce health disparities of a specific population	Advocates at the local, regional, or national level for populations and communities with health care disparities	
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1					

Systems-Based Practice 6: Physician Role in Health Care Systems				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Engages with patients and other providers in discussions about cost-conscious care and key components of the health care delivery system	Identifies the relationships between the delivery system and cost- conscious care and the impact on the patient care	Discusses the need for changes in clinical approaches based on evidence, outcomes, and cost-effectiveness to improve care for patients and families	Advocates for the promotion of safe, quality, and high-value care	Coaches others to promote safe, quality, and high-value care across health care systems
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1				

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement 1: Evidence-Based and Informed Practice				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Develops an answerable clinical question and demonstrates how to access available evidence, with guidance	Independently articulates clinical question and accesses available evidence	Locates and applies the evidence, integrated with patient preference, to the care of 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
Comments: Not Yet 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
Participates in feedback sessions	Demonstrates openness to feedback and performance data	Seeks and incorporates feedback and performance data episodically	Seeks and incorporates feedback and performance data consistently	Role models and coaches others in seeking and incorporating feedback and performance data
Develops personal and professional goals, with assistance	Designs a learning plan based on established goals, feedback, and performance data, with assistance	Designs and implements a learning plan by analyzing and reflecting on the factors which contribute to gap(s) between performance expectations and actual performance	Adapts a learning plan using long-term professional goals, self-reflection, and performance data to measure its effectiveness	Demonstrates continuous self-reflection and coaching of others on reflective practice
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1				

Professionalism 1: Professional Behavior					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Identifies expected professional behaviors and potential triggers for lapses	Demonstrates professional behavior with occasional lapses	Maintains professional behavior in increasingly complex or stressful situations	Recognizes situations that may trigger professionalism lapses and intervenes to prevent lapses in self and others	Models professional behavior and coaches others when their behavior fails to meet professional expectations	
Identifies the value and role of pediatrics as a vocation/career	Demonstrates accountability for patient care as a pediatrician, with guidance	Fully engages in patient care and holds oneself accountable	Exhibits a sense of duty to patient care and professional responsibilities	Extends the role of the pediatrician beyond the care of patients by engaging with the community, specialty, and medical profession as a whole	
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1					

Professionalism 2: Ethical Principles					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Demonstrates knowledge of the ethical principles underlying informed consent, surrogate decision making, advance directives, confidentiality, error disclosure, stewardship of limited resources, and related topics	Applies ethical principles in common situations	Analyzes complex situations using ethical principles to address conflict/controversy; seeks help when needed to manage and resolve complex ethical situations	Manages and seeks to resolve ethical dilemmas using appropriate resources (e.g., ethics consultations, literature review, risk management/legal consultation)	Called upon by others to consult in cases of complex ethical dilemmas; identifies and seeks to address system-level factors that induce or exacerbate	
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1					

Professionalism 3: Accountability/Conscientiousness					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Performs tasks and responsibilities, with prompting	Performs tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner in routine situations	Performs tasks and responsibilities in a thorough and timely manner in complex or stressful situations	Coaches others to ensure tasks and responsibilities are completed in a thorough and timely manner in complex or stressful situations	Creates strategies to enhance others' ability to efficiently complete tasks and responsibilities	
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1					

Professionalism 4: Well-Being					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	
Recognizes the importance of addressing personal and professional well-being	Describes institutional resources that are meant to promote well-being	Recognizes institutional and personal factors that impact well-being	Describes interactions between institutional and personal factors that impact well-being	Coaches and supports colleagues to optimize well-being at the team, program, or institutional level	
Comments:			Not Yet C	ompleted Level 1	

This subcompetency is not intended to evaluate a resident's well-being, but to ensure each resident 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.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 1: Patient- and Family-Centered Communication				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Demonstrates respect and attempts to establish rapport	Establishes a therapeutic relationship in straightforward encounters	Establishes a culturally competent and therapeutic relationship in most encounters	Establishes a therapeutic relationship in straightforward and complex encounters, including those with ambiguity and/or conflict	Mentors others to develop positive therapeutic relationships
Attempts to adjust communication strategies based upon patient/family expectations	Adjusts communication strategies as needed to mitigate barriers and meet patient/family expectations	Communicates with sensitivity and compassion, elicits patient/family values, and acknowledges uncertainty and conflict	Uses shared decision making with patient/family to make a personalized care plan	Models and coaches others in patient- and family-centered communication
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1				

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 2: Interprofessional and Team Communication				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Respectfully requests a consultation, with guidance	Clearly and concisely requests consultation by communicating patient information	Formulates a specific question for consultation and tailors communication strategy	Coordinates consultant recommendations to optimize patient care	Maintains a collaborative relationship with referring providers that maximizes adherence to practice recommendations
Identifies the members of the interprofessional team	Participates within the interprofessional team	Uses bi-directional communication within the interprofessional team	Facilitates interprofessional team communication	Coaches others in effective communication within the interprofessional team
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1				

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 3: Communication within Health Care Systems				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Records accurate information in the patient record	Records accurate and timely information in the patient record	Concisely documents updated, prioritized, diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning in the patient record	Documents diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning, including anticipatory guidance	Models and coaches others in documenting diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning
Identifies the importance of and responds to multiple forms of communication (e.g., inperson, electronic health record (EHR), telephone, email)	Selects appropriate method of communication, with prompting	Aligns type of communication with message to be delivered (e.g., direct and indirect) based on urgency and complexity	Demonstrates exemplary written and verbal communication	Coaches others in written and verbal communication
Comments: Not Yet Completed Level 1				