

## Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Vertical Integrated Curriculum Student Assessments

The knowledge, skills and attitudes related to Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QI/PS) that are developed within individual courses/clerkships will be assessed within those courses/clerkships via written exam questions, clinical skills exercises, written assignments, faculty observation and/or other applicable methods.

### Cumulative Assessment

The Topics in Clinical Medicine-3 exam at the end of the MS-3 year will be a multiple choice exam.

Questions will be directed toward the following objectives:

- Identify the obligation of all physicians to participate in improving the systems that deliver care to their patients
- Provide examples of standardized tools for performing **handoffs**
- Describe **SBAR** (Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation) as a tool for ensuring a common understanding of care for patients during transitions of care
- Summarize appropriate skills and strategies for communication during difficult situations, such as **disclosing a medical error**
- Demonstrate an understanding of the emotional impact of errors on the patient or family
- Explain how cognitive strategies and human factor engineering principles can be incorporated into behaviors to prevent errors
- Apply knowledge of a **root cause analysis** to understand how systems can be improved after an adverse event
- Identify the purpose of a “root cause analysis”
- Identify cognitive, team and system strategies that can be incorporated into practice to prevent errors
- Distinguish between **adverse events and medical errors**
- Summarize how cognitive errors can contribute to medical errors
- Explain the **Swiss cheese model for system errors**

- Give examples of **National Patient Safety Goals**
- Describe the characteristics of high reliability organizations
- Describe how **quality improvement tools** can be used to improve outcomes in particular diseases, such as acute myocardial infarction
- Practice quality improvement principles when considering diagnostic tests, such as CT scans in patients with headaches
- Define **Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA)** and summarize how this quality improvement tool can be used to improve systems

A score of 70% on the Quality Improvement/Patient Safety questions is required to pass the QI/PS component of the TCM-3 exam

Students who do not obtain 70% on the QI/PS component of the TCM3 exam will be required to take, and successfully pass, a written remediation exam on QI/PS content.