Educational Goals and Objectives for
Culturally Effective Pediatric Care
for Residents in Pediatrics

Please note that to facilitate the use of these goals and objectives within the six areas of general competence for graduate medical education, the general area(s) of competence each goal/objective may correspond to is listed in parentheses.

Pediatricians and their staff should be knowledgeable about the cultural diversity of the patients/families to whom they provide health care services in their practice/hospital. (patient care, medical knowledge, systems-based practice)

- Obtain and maintain information on the current demographic, cultural, and epidemiological profile of the community. (medical knowledge, systems-based practice)
- Apply knowledge about different diseases and conditions that are prevalent within certain racial, ethnic, and cultural groups to the patients/families for which services are provided. (patient care, medical knowledge)
- Be able to implement a quality improvement plan that improves services that respond to the racial, ethnic, and cultural characteristics of the community. (patient care, practice-based learning and improvement)
- Access language assistance services such as bilingual staff and interpreter services for patients/families with limited English proficiency or other language assistance needs. (interpersonal communication, systems-based practice)
- Enumerate the community resources available for the patients that may help patients with unique challenges such as those faced by immigrants and refugee families. (systems-based practice, medical knowledge)
- Know strategies to recruit and retain a diverse staff at all levels that is reflective of the demographic characteristics of the population being served. (practice-based learning and improvement, patient care, systems-based practice)

Pediatric patients and their families should receive care in a manner that is respectful and compatible with their cultural health beliefs, practices and family structure. (professionalism, patient care)

- Identify the barriers in your practice/hospital for providing culturally effective care and develop a plan to address these issues. (systems-based practice, practice-based learning and improvement)
- Conduct the history and physical examination in a manner that demonstrates awareness and sensitivity to cultural and religious views of wellness and illness. *(patient care)*

- Recognize and integrate cultural and ethnic health beliefs into the diagnostic and/or therapeutic treatment plan when possible, including assessing family structures in a manner that is sensitive to the diversity of family constructs (divorced, single-parent, gay/lesbian families, multiple generations living together) *(patient care,)*

- Take into consideration the cultural diversity and range of functions family members play in health care decision-making when discussing an illness, condition or treatment plan. *(patient care, medical knowledge)*

- Use culturally appropriate terms in communicating medical information to patients. *(interpersonal communication)*

**Pediatric patients and their families should receive linguistically appropriate care that takes into consideration their health literacy and educational level. (patient care, professionalism)**

- Provide verbal and written information in the patient’s preferred language acknowledging his/her rights to receive care in his/her preferred language and your responsibility to provide language service assistance. *(interpersonal communication)*

- Provide language assistance services (bilingual staff, interpreter services) to those patients/families with limited English proficiency at all points of contact. *(interpersonal communication, practice-based learning and improvement, systems-based practice)*

- Conduct medical interviews and counseling in a manner that takes into consideration health literacy and educational levels and that encourages the patient and family members to ask questions. *(interpersonal communication, patient care)*

- Provide health information forms and patient care brochures in a variety of reading levels and languages that reflect the population served by the practice/hospital. *(systems-based practice, medical knowledge)*

- Describe the role health literacy plays in culturally effective care and how to incorporate this role into all aspects of health care delivery. *(medical practice, patient care)*

**Pediatric patients and their families should receive comprehensive health care that incorporates the patient’s use of complementary and/or alternative medicine and religious based healing/support. (medical practice, interpersonal communication)**

- Ask about the use of non-prescriptive medications, herbs, vitamins and other dietary and home remedies. *(interpersonal communication, patient care)*
- Ask about the patient’s religious background and his/her use of prayer and spiritual healing for health care concerns. (*patient care, medical knowledge, interpersonal communication*)

- Incorporate the range of functions religion can play in health care decision-making when discussing an illness, condition or treatment plan. (*patient care, medical knowledge*)

- Ask about care from other health care providers/healers (e.g. Reiki healers, Chi Kung healers, naturopathic physicians, chiropractors, etc.). (*interpersonal communication, patient care*)

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