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# **NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL COMPETENCY PROFILE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT**

**28-Jan-07**

*This Occupational Competency Profile (OCP) identifies the job entry-level skills of the Canadian Physician Assistant (PA). It is based on the Scope of Practice for Physician Assistants that was approved by the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants on 28 January 2007. The OCP was developed in draft form and then validated through consultations with practicing PAs, Medical Educators and Supervising Physicians.*

*The Canadian Association of Physician Assistants appreciates the financial support of the Department of National Defence, the involvement of personnel from the Canadian Forces Medical Services School, Borden ON, the University of Manitoba and the assistance of practicing Physicians and PAs in the development of this document.*

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The Performance Environment specifies the setting in which the practitioner must demonstrate competence.  
A Performance Environment is identified for every Specific Competency within the profile, and is listed in the following chapters.

<b>Performance Environment</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>A</b>	The practitioner must have demonstrated an <i>academic understanding</i> of the competency. Individual evaluation is required.
<b>S</b>	The practitioner must have demonstrated the competency in a <i>simulated setting</i> . Individual evaluation of physical application skills is required, utilizing any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>practical scenario</li> <li>skills station</li> <li>mannequin</li> <li>cadaver</li> <li>live subject (human or non-human).</li> </ul>
<b>C</b>	The practitioner must have demonstrated the competency in a <i>clinical setting</i> with a patient. Individual evaluation of physical application skills is required. An acceptable clinical setting is any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>hospital</li> <li>health clinic</li> <li>medical office</li> <li>nursing home.</li> </ul>

The Performance Environment applies to the final evaluation of the practitioner's competence.  
Where a simulated setting is specified, it is expected a training program will provide academic training prior to simulation.  
Where a clinical setting is specified, it is expected that a training program will provide academic training prior to clinical settings.

Definitions used with permission from the Paramedic Association of Canada

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE	
<b>1.1 Obtain health history as appropriate.</b>	1.1.a Obtain personal identifying data.	C	
	1.1.b Identify chief complaint.	S	
	1.1.c Determine history of present illness or injury.	S	
	1.1.d Determine past medical history.	S	
	1.1.e Determine past surgical history.	S	
	1.1.f Determine medication history.	S	
	1.1.g Determine allergy history.	S	
	1.1.h Determine family history.	S	
	1.1.i Determine psychosocial history.	S	
	1.1.j Conduct review of systems.	S	
	<b>1.2 Conduct comprehensive and focused physical assessments and interpret findings.</b>	1.2.a Focus assessments based on patient presentation and special needs.	C
		1.2.b Assess vital signs (including pulse, blood pressure, respiratory rate, temperature).	S
1.2.c Perform eye examination.		S	
1.2.d Perform ear examination.		S	
1.2.e Perform nose examination.		S	
1.2.f Perform throat examination.		S	
1.2.g Perform maxillofacial and dental examination.		S	
1.2.h Perform cardiovascular system assessment.		S	
1.2.i Perform respiratory system assessment.		S	
1.2.j Perform gastrointestinal system assessment.		S	
1.2.k Perform genitourinary system assessment.		S	
1.2.l Perform integumentary system assessment.		S	
1.2.m Perform musculoskeletal system assessment.		S	
1.2.n Perform neurological system assessment.		S	
1.2.o Perform immune system assessment.		S	
1.2.p Perform endocrine system assessment.		S	
1.2.q Perform psychological assessment.		C	
1.2.r Perform obstetrical / gynecological assessment.	C		
1.2.s Perform neonatal assessment.	C		
1.2.t Perform pediatric assessment.	C		
1.2.u Perform geriatric assessment.	C		
<b>1.3 Conduct triage.</b>	1.3.a Apply principles of triage in various settings.	S	
	1.3.b Manage a mass casualty incident.	S	

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>2.1 Utilize primary and secondary assessment results to formulate a Differential Diagnosis.</b>	2.1.a Apply knowledge of conditions, injuries and disease processes listed in Appendix 1 to formulate diagnosis. 2.1.b Formulate a preliminary and differential diagnoses as appropriate. 2.1.c Determine if further clinical investigations are required.	A C C
<b>2.2 Order and interpret laboratory studies.</b>	2.2.a <i>Hematology tests.</i> 2.2.b <i>Clinical chemistry tests.</i> 2.2.c <i>Microbiology tests.</i> 2.2.d <i>Serology tests.</i> 2.2.e <i>Urinalysis tests.</i> 2.2.f <i>Histology / cytology tests.</i> 2.2.g <i>Blood gas analysis</i> 2.2.h Perform routine and micro urinalysis. 2.2.i Perform basic hematology. 2.2.j Perform basic clinical chemistry. 2.2.k Perform test utilizing prepared diagnostic kits 2.2.l Perform basic microbiology.	C C C C C A S S A A A S
<b>2.3 Perform diagnostic procedures.</b>	2.3.a Perform electrocardiography. 2.3.b Perform peak expiratory flow tests. 2.3.c <i>Perform slit lamp examination.</i> 2.3.d Perform fluorescein examination. 2.3.e Perform visual acuity measurement. 2.3.f Perform intraocular pressure measurement. 2.3.g Perform audiometry tests. 2.3.h Order diagnostic imaging (including plain film X-rays, ultrasound). 2.3.i Perform Papanicolaou test,	S C C C C S A C C
<b>2.4 Obtain specimens.</b>	2.4.a Collect blood samples (arterial and venous). 2.4.b Collect minor surgical samples. 2.4.c Collect body secretions and body fluids (semen, sputum, wound drainage, urine).	C C C

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>2.5 Interpret investigation results.</b>		
	2.5.a <i>Review preliminary diagnosis.</i>	C
	2.5.b <i>Determine current medical status.</i>	C
	2.5.c <i>Undertake further clinical investigations as required.</i>	C
	2.5.d <i>Communicate results to physician as required by delegation protocol.</i>	C

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>3.1 Determine treatment plan.</b>	3.1.a Formulate treatment or management plan based on assessment and investigation results, availability of services and special needs of patient, utilizing knowledge of conditions, injuries and disease processes listed in Appendix 1.	C
	3.1.b Obtain physician approval of treatment / management plan as required by delegation protocol.	C
	3.1.c Refer patient to physician or other health care professional for development of treatment / management plan as required by delegation protocol.	C
<b>3.2 Implement treatment plan.</b>	3.2.a Treat patients with immediate life-threatening conditions.	S
	3.2.b Arrange for transfer to health care facilities as appropriate.	S
	3.2.c Formulate clinical plan for admission and /or discharge of patients.	C
	3.2.d Provide appropriate care prior to admission or transport.	C
	3.2.e Ensure provision of required care during transport.	S
	3.2.f Treat patients with acute illnesses, injuries or conditions listed in Appendix 1.	A
	3.2.g Manage patients with chronic disorders, according to delegation protocol.	C
	3.2.h Treat / manage patients with lifestyle and / or psychosocial issues affecting their well-being.	C
	3.2.i Employ patient restraint methods as required to protect the patient and others.	A
	3.2.j Take necessary precautions to protect patient and others against the transmission/spread of infectious diseases and environmental illnesses / injuries.	A
<b>3.3 Monitor patient progress.</b>	3.3.a Evaluate patient's response to treatment.	C
	3.3.b Modify treatment / management plan as appropriate.	C
	3.3.c Obtain physician direction and approval for intervention beyond delegated protocols as appropriate.	C

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>4.1 Apply advanced life support techniques.</b>	4.1.a Perform Advanced Cardiac Life Support protocols as required to obtain ACLS Certification.	S
	4.1.b Perform Basic Trauma Life Support (Advanced) protocols as required to obtain, BTLs(A) Certification, or equivalent.	S
	4.1.c Follow advanced trauma life support guidelines	S
<b>4.2 Maintain patency of upper airway and trachea.</b>	4.2.a Use manual maneuvers and positioning to maintain airway patency.	C
	4.2.b Suction airway.	C
	4.2.c Insert airway devices (including nasopharyngeal, oropharyngeal, intubation).	C
	4.2.d Remove airway foreign bodies above the vocal chords.	S
	4.2.e Perform percutaneous needle cricothyroidotomy.	S
	4.2.f Perform surgical cricothyroidotomy.	S
<b>4.3 Administer oxygen therapy.</b>	4.3.a Recognize indications for oxygen therapy.	C
	4.3.b Select appropriate oxygen delivery devices.	C
	4.3.c <i>Administer oxygen therapy.</i>	C
<b>4.4 Ensure proper ventilation.</b>	4.4.a Recognize indications for ventilatory support.	S
	4.4.b <i>Select appropriate portable ventilatory delivery device (BVM ect).</i>	S
	4.4.c Initiate and maintain manual ventilation.	S
	4.4.d Monitor patient receiving ventilatory support.	S
	4.4.e <i>Initiate portable transport mechanical ventilator.</i>	S
	4.4.f Recognize complications of ventilatory support	S
<b>4.5 Implement resuscitation measures.</b>	4.5.a Perform infant, child and adult CPR according to accepted emergency cardiac care guidelines.	S
	4.5.b Control external hemorrhage.	S
	4.5.c Perform peripheral IV cannulation.	C
	4.5.d Perform IV cutdown.	S
	4.5.e Administer blood and / or blood products.	S

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>4.5 Implement resuscitation measures.</b> cont'		
	4.5.f Administer volume expanders.	S
	4.5.g Perform intraosseous needle insertion.	S
	4.5.h Perform manual defibrillation.	S
	4.5.i Perform semi-automated external defibrillation.	S
	4.5.j Perform urinary catheterization.	S
	4.5.k Perform chest tube thoracostomy.	S
	4.5.l Perform needle decompression.	S
	4.5.m Perform orogastric tube insertion.	S
	4.5.n Perform nasogastric tube insertion.	S
<b>4.6 Treat environmental injuries.</b>		
	4.6.a Treat hypothermia injuries.	A
	4.6.b Treat hyperthermia.	A
	4.6.c Treat burns.	A
	4.6.d Treat bites.	A
<b>4.7 Treat musculoskeletal and soft tissue injuries.</b>		
	4.7.a Immobilize fractures and suspected fractures using splints and or casts.	C
	4.7.b Treat and manage acute / repetitive joint injuries.	C
	4.7.c Treat muscle strains and contusions.	C
	4.7.d Treat eye injuries.	C
	4.7.e Treat puncture / penetration wound and lacerations.	C
	4.7.f Protect and prepare severed body parts for transport.	A
<b>4.8 Conduct surgical procedures using aseptic technique.</b>		
	4.8.a Suture.	C
	4.8.b Perform biopsies within delegation protocol.	S
	4.8.c Perform incision and drainage procedures.	S
	4.8.d Assist physician with surgical procedures.	C
<b>4.9 Treat dental emergencies.</b>		
	4.9.a Provide emergency treatment of dental injuries.	A
	4.9.b Provide emergency treatment for dental infection	A
	4.9.c Provide emergency treatment for dental pain.	A
	4.9.d Assess and refer tooth decay.	A

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
4.10 <i>Conduct minor procedures.</i>	4.10.a Perform ear syringing.	S
	4.10.b Perform gastric lavage.	A
	4.10.c Administer enema.	A
	4.10.d <i>Treat minor skin lesions.</i>	C
	4.10.e Perform foot care.	A
4.11 <i>Provide Pharmacological Therapy. (ref to appendix 2)</i>	4.11.a <i>Advise patient on the proper use of medication. (Narcotic, controlled, prescription or OTC)</i> <i>Prescribe medication as authorized by supervising physician and subject to relevant</i>	C
	4.11.b <i>legislation.</i>	C
	4.11.c <i>Follow acceptable process for control of medication.</i>	A
	4.11.d Administer medication via subcutaneous route.	C
	4.11.e Administer medication via intramuscular route.	C
	4.11.f Administer medication via intravenous route.	C
	4.11.g Administer medication via intraosseous route.	S
	4.11.h Administer medication via endotracheal route.	S
	4.11.i Administer medication via sublingual route.	S
	4.11.j Administer medication via topical route (including transdermal, eye, ear).	S
	4.11.k Administer medication via oral route.	C
	4.11.l Administer medication via rectal route.	A
	4.11.m Administer medication via inhalation.	C
	4.11.n Administer medication via intranasal route.	A

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>5.1 Provide health maintenance education.</b>		
	5.1.a Advise patient on lifestyle and fitness issues.	A
	5.1.b Advise patient on injury prevention.	A
	5.1.c Advise patient on nutrition and weight control.	A
	5.1.d Advise patient on sexual health, birth control and family planning.	A
	5.1.e Advise patient on addictions and substance abuse issues.	A
	5.1.f Advise patient on stress and anger management.	A
	5.1.g Advise patient on suicide prevention.	A
	5.1.h Advise patient on infectious disease issues.	A
	5.1.i Advise patient on workplace safety issues.	A
	5.1.j Advise patient on occupational and public health issues.	A
	5.1.k Advise patient on use of mobility aids.	A
	5.1.l Maintain effective liaison with public health personnel.	A
	5.1.m Refer patient to community health and support agencies as appropriate.	A
	Provide advice relative to health and safety concerns in the workplace, in	
	5.1.n accommodations and in recreational / service facilities.	A
	5.1.o Provide advice relative to food- and water-borne illnesses.	A
	5.1.p Provide advice on pest control.	A
	5.1.q <i>Provide advice on immunization programs.</i>	A
		A
<b>5.2 Conduct immunization programs.</b>		
	5.2.a Administer immunizations.	A
	5.2.b Provide immunization follow-up as required.	A
	5.2.c Recognize and manage adverse effects of immunizations.	A

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>6.1 Document patient information.</b>	<i>6.1.a Record patient history, results of examination and treatment plan.</i>	C
	<i>6.1.b Record progress notes (to include verbal and phone) .</i>	C
	<i>6.1.c Prepare consultation requests.</i>	C
	<i>6.1.d Record prescriptions and orders.</i>	C
	<i>6.1.e Record admission and discharge notes.</i>	C
<b>6.2 Collect administrative information.</b>	<i>6.2.a Maintain administrative records.</i>	A
	<i>6.2.b Maintain dispensing records.</i>	A
<b>6.3 Control equipment and materials.</b>	<i>6.3.a Maintain adequate medical supplies.</i>	A
	<i>6.3.b Maintain adequate non-medical supplies.</i>	A
	<i>6.3.c Ensure that equipment is maintained in working order.</i>	S
<b>6.4 Participate in research activities.</b>	<i>6.4.a Collect research data.</i>	A
	<i>6.4.b Prepare data summaries.</i>	A
	<i>6.4.c Report on trends and anomalies.</i>	A

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>7.1 Function as a professional.</b>	7.1.a Promote understanding of PA role in health care system.	C
	7.1.b Maintain patient dignity	C
	7.1.c Reflect professionalism through use of appropriate language.	C
	7.1.d Dress appropriately and maintain personal hygiene.	C
	7.1.e Maintain appropriate personal interaction with patients.	C
	7.1.f Participate in quality assurance and enhancement programs.	C
	7.1.g Refer patients to appropriate agencies as required.	A
	7.1.h Behave ethically.	C
	7.1.i Comply with policies, procedures and directives of employer.	C
	7.1.j Advocate on behalf of patient	C
<b>7.2 Participate in continuing medical education (CME).</b>	7.2.a Self-evaluate and set goals for improvement, as related to professional practice.	C
	7.2.b Interpret evidence in medical literature and assess relevance to practice.	C
	7.2.c Comply with continuing medical education guidelines of national professional association and employer.	A
	7.2.d Develop personal plan for continuing professional development.	A
	7.2.e Promote and facilitate continuing medical education of health care practitioners.	A
<b>7.3 Respect medico legal guidelines.</b>	7.3.a Comply with scope of practice.	C
	7.3.b Recognize "patient rights" and the implications on the role of the health care provider.	C
	7.3.c Maintain patient confidentiality.	C
	7.3.d Recognize and comply with relevant provincial and federal legislation.	C
	7.3.e Obtain informed consent	C
<b>7.4 Function in a team environment.</b>	7.4.a Respect the scopes of practice of other health care professionals.	C
	7.4.b Work collaboratively within a multi-disciplinary health care team.	C
	7.4.c Respect and promote the physician-PA professional relationship.	C
	7.4.d Accept and deliver constructive feedback.	C

<b>GENERAL COMPETENCY</b>	<b>SPECIFIC COMPETENCY</b>	<b>PE</b>
<b>7.5 Make decisions effectively.</b>		
	7.5.a Exhibit sound judgment.	C
	7.5.b Practice effective problem-solving.	C
	7.5.c Assign and refer tasks appropriately and effectively.	C
	7.5.d Function effectively in emergency situations	C
<b>7.6 Maintain good physical and mental health.</b>		
	7.6.a Practice safe lifting and moving techniques.	A
	7.6.b Maintain a safe working environment.	A

GENERAL COMPETENCY	SPECIFIC COMPETENCY	PE
<b>8.1 Practice effective oral communication.</b>	8.1.a Deliver an organized, accurate and relevant patient report.	C
	8.1.b Explain to patient their situation and the treatment / management options.	C
	8.1.c Provide information about the patient's medical situation to relatives and others as appropriate.	C
	8.1.d Use appropriate medical terminology.	C
	8.1.e Adapt language appropriate to the listener.	
	8.1.f Practice active and passive listening techniques as appropriate.	C
<b>8.2 Practice effective written communication.</b>	8.2.a Record organized, accurate and relevant patient information.	C
	8.2.b Create legible, concise documentation.	C
	8.2.c Utilize proper medical terminology and abbreviation.	C
	8.2.d Write prescriptions using accepted notation.	C
	8.2.e Prepare professional correspondence.	A
	8.2.f Write letters on behalf of patients.	A
<b>8.3 Practice effective interpersonal relations.</b>	8.3.a Treat others with respect.	C
	8.3.b Exhibit empathy and compassion.	C
	8.3.c Exhibit effective non-verbal behaviour	C
	8.3.d Manage and provide support to patient and others manifesting emotional reactions.	C
	8.3.e Demonstrate diplomacy, tact and discretion.	C
	8.3.f <i>Demonstrate conflict management skills.</i>	A
	8.3.g Demonstrate appropriate defusing and personal protection techniques in hostile situations.	S

This listing denotes the essential knowledge, injuries and disease processes with which the PA should have academic familiarity, as described in Specific Competency 4.1.a.

**BIOCHEMISTRY**

Organic Chemistry  
Introduction to metabolism  
Lipids( Biochemistry of CVS)  
Biochemistry of Respiration, Fluids,electrolytes,and  
Acid base Balance  
Clinical enzymes  
Biochemistry of the Hormones  
The Role of Clinical chemistry in Diagnosis and  
treatment of Disease

**CHEMISTRY**

Introduction to Basic course in Chemistry  
Atom and Atomic concepts  
The Periodic Chart  
Valence and Bonding  
Basic Inorganic Nomenclature  
Chemical Equations and Reactions  
Properties of Solutions  
Ionization  
Acids and Bases  
Salts  
PH, Buffers, and Hydrolysis  
Metals and Nonmetals  
Radioactivity

**EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

- Abdominal Trauma
- Acute Respiratory Distress/Compromised
- Advanced Trauma Management
- Airway and Ventilatory Management
- Ballistics/Mechanisms of Injury
- Basic Life Support
- Bites and Stings
- Burns
- Drug Intoxication and Poisoning
- Emergency Surgical Procedures
- Evaluation of Unconscious Patient
- Genitourinary Tract Trauma
- Head Trauma
- Heat and Cold Environment Injuries
- Hemodynamic Stabilization of Shock
- Initial Assessment
- Maxillofacial Trauma
- Musculo Skeletal Trauma
- Pediatric Trauma
- Radiation Injuries
- Spine and Spinal Trauma
- Stabilization and Transport
- Thoracic Trauma
- Water Accidents and Thermal Control

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE**

- Public Health
- Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- Food and Nutrition
- Communicable Diseases
- Health Promotion and Prevention
- Obesity and Weight Control
- Addictions and Substance Abuse
- Exercise Prescription
- Biostatistics and Research
- Sexually Transmitted Disease and Human Immunodeficiency Virus
- Suicide Prevention

**SURGERY**

Pre-Operative Patient Evaluations  
Local, Regional, and General Anesthesia  
Wound Management  
Surgical (Wound) Infections  
Post-Operative and Post-Traumatic Complications  
Diseases of the Breast  
Surgical Diseases of the Upper GI Tract  
The Acute Abdomen  
Surgical Diseases of the Lower GI Tract and Anorectal Disease  
Hepatobiliary, Pancreas, and Spleen  
Abdominal Wall Hernias  
Vascular Disease and Trauma  
Common Minor Surgery  
Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Emergencies  
Cosmetic/ Plastic surgery

**DENTAL**

Anatomy of the Maxillo-Facial Region  
Physiology of the Maxillo Facial region  
Oral Lesions  
Maxillo-Facial Trauma  
Infectious Swelling  
Dental Disease Process  
Dental Pain Management  
Post Dental Surgical Complications

**GENITOURINARY**

Anatomy of the Genito Urinary System  
Physiology of the Genito Urinary System  
Cancer of the Urinary and Genital Tracts  
Congenital Anomalies  
Congenital Anomalies of the GU Tract  
Glomerular Diseases  
GU Disorders in Males  
GU Trauma  
Hematuria  
Obstructive Disease  
Other GU Procedures  
Renal Cysts  
Renal Failure  
Renal Physiology  
Renal Tumors  
Stone Disease of the Urinary Tract  
Tubulo-interstitial Diseases  
Urinary Tract Infections (UTI) in Females  
Vascular Disease

**ORTHOPEDICS**

Anatomy of the Musculoskeletal System  
Physiology of the MSK System  
Introduction to Orthopedics  
Arthritis  
Casting/Splinting/Traction  
Congenital Disorders  
Fractures, Dislocations  
Infections of Bones and Joints  
Metabolic Disorders  
Muscle, Tendon, and Ligamentous Injuries  
Neoplastic Disease and Bone Tumors  
Orthopedic Emergencies and Pitfalls in Management  
Orthotics and Braces  
Radiologic Aspects of Orthopedic Disease and Injury  
Special Topics in Orthopedics  
Sports Medicine  
The Ankle and Foot  
The Cervical Spine  
The Cervicobrachial Region  
The Elbow  
The Forearm, Wrist, and Hand  
The Hip  
The Knee  
The Pelvis and Sacrum  
The Shoulder  
Thoracic, Lumbar, Sacral conditions

**OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY**

Female Reproductive Anatomy  
Physiology of the Female Reproductive Cycle  
Normal Pregnancy  
Prenatal Care  
Labor and Delivery  
Complications of Pregnancy  
The Gynecological Examination  
Contraception and Family Planning  
Breast Feeding  
Menstrual Irregularities  
Disorders of Vulva and Vagina  
Disorders of the Uterine Cervix, Corpus, Ovaries, and Oviducts  
Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Pelvic Infections  
Gynecological Carcinomas  
Infertility  
Menopause  
Human Sexuality  
Sexual Assault  
Acute Obstetrical-Gynecological Emergencies  
Hirsutism and Virilization

**OPHTHALMOLOGY**

- Anatomy of the Ocular System
- Physiology of the Ocular system
- Visual Disorders
- Lids and Lachrymal Apparatus
- Conjunctiva
- Cornea
- Sclera
- Uveal Tract
- Glaucoma
- Lens and Vitreous
- Retina
- Neuro-Ophthalmologic Disorders
- Orbital Disorders and Ocular Injuries
- The Differential Diagnosis of the Red Eye and Visual Loss
- Color Vision

**OTORHYNOLARYNGOLOGY**

- Anatomy of the ENT
- Physiology of the ENT
- Nose and Paranasal Sinuses
- Oral Cavity, Oropharynx, and Nasopharynx
- The Neck
- Larynx and Hypopharynx
- The Ear
- Speech Disorders
- Vertigo and Dizziness
- Audiology, Hearing Conservation
- Head and Neck Trauma

**ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY**

- Immunological Basis of Disease
- Physiology of the Immune System
- Anatomy of the Lymphatic System
- Physiology of the Lymphatic System
- Hypersensitivity and Immune Complex Disease
- Anaphylaxis
- Food Allergy
- Atopic Dermatitis
- Drug Allergy
- Stinging Insect Allergy
- Urticaria/Angioedema
- Immunodeficiency
- Allergy immunotherapy
- Immunizations

**DERMATOLOGY**

Anatomy of the Integumentary system  
Physiology of the Integumentary System  
Identification of Lesions  
Acne and Other Follicular Disorders  
Bacterial Infections of the Skin  
Benign Tumors  
Bites, Stings, Scratches, and Infections of the Skin  
Examinations and Diseases of the Hair  
Inflammatory Skin Diseases  
Premalignant and Malignant Tumors of the Skin  
Examination and Diseases of the Nails  
Nevi and Malignant Melanoma  
Photobiology, Photodamage, Photoprotection, and Photosensitivity Disorders  
Serious and Life Threatening Dermatological Conditions  
Skin Signs of Systemic Disease  
Topical Steroid Therapy  
Inflammatory Skin Diseases  
Viral Diseases of the Skin  
Yeast and Fungal Infections of the Skin, Hair, Nails, and Mucous Membranes  
Parasitic Infestation of the Skin

**RHEUMATOLOGY**

Introduction to Rheumatology  
Evaluation Tests in Rheumatology  
Rheumatoid Arthritis  
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)  
Scleroderma/Crest Syndromes  
Seronegative Spondyloarthropathies  
The Crystal Arthropathies  
Osteoarthritis  
Infectious Arthritis  
Polymyositis/Dermatomyositis  
Vasculitis Syndromes  
Fibromyalgia Syndrome  
Sjogren's Syndrome  
Mixed Connective Tissue Disease (MCTD)

**CARDIOLOGY**

- Anatomy of the Cardiovascular System
- Physiology of the Cardiovascular system
- Electro-Physiology of the Heart
- Clinical Approach to Patients with Cardiovascular Disease
- Heart Failure
- Pulmonary Edema
- Pulmonary Hypertension
- Shock
- Cardiac Dysrhythmia
- Conditions of the Cardiac Conduction System
- Pericardial Disease
- Acute Rheumatic Fever
- Valvular Heart Disease
- Congenital Heart Disease in the Adult
- Endocarditis
- Ischemic Heart Disease
- Acute Myocardial Infarction
- Systemic Hypertension
- Diseases of the Aorta
- Peripheral Vascular Disease

**PULMONARY MEDICINE**

- Anatomy of the Respiratory System
- Physiology of the Respiratory System
- Asthma, Bronchitis, and Emphysema
- Bacterial and Viral Pneumonia
- Tuberculosis and Fungal Infections
- Pulmonary Thromboembolism
- Pulmonary Neoplasms
- Acute and Chronic Respiratory Failure
- Pulmonary Diagnostic Procedures
- Pleural and Chest Wall Conditions
- Occupational/Environmental Pulmonary Diseases
- Interstitial Pulmonary Disease
- Blood Gas Interpretation

**HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY**

- Anatomy of the Blood
- Physiology of the Blood
- Clinical Approach to Anemias
- Iron Disorders
- Megaloblastic Anemias
- Anemia of Chronic Disorders
- Hemolytic Anemias
- Disorders in Hemoglobin
- Myeloproliferative Diseases
- Aplastic Anemia
- Platelets
- Coagulation Disorders
- Disorders of Hemostasis - Diagnostic Approach
- Blood Component Therapy
- Hematologic Malignancies
- Hodgkin's and Non-Hodgkin's Lymphomas
- Introduction to Clinical Oncology

**Endocrinology**

- Anatomy of the Endocrine System
- Physiology of the Endocrine System
- Pituitary Disorders
- Thyroid Disorders
- Endocrine Emergencies
- Parathyroid Disorders
- Adrenal Gland Disorders
- The Gonads
- Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia (Men)
- Hyper/ HypoGlycemic Conditions
- Dyslipidemic Conditions

**NEUROLOGY**

- Anatomy of the CNS
- Anatomy of the ANS
- Anatomy of the PNS
- Physiology of the Neurological System
- Neurological History and Examination
- Head Trauma and Emergencies
- Cerebrovascular Disorders
- Cerebrovascular Emergencies
- Neuropathies and Radiculopathies
- Headache
- Seizures
- CNS Infections
- Neuromuscular Disorders
- Tumors
- Congenital Anomalies

**MICROBIOLOGY**

- Introduction to Infectious Diseases
- Urinary Tract Infections (UTI)
- Gonococcal Infection
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- Staphylococcal Disease
- Streptococcal Disease
- Viral Hepatitis
- Viral Illnesses
- Influenza and Respiratory Infections
- Diarrheal Disease
- Foodborne Illness
- Rabies
- Lyme Disease
- Rickettsial Disease
- Ectoparasites
- Encephalitis
- Meningitis
- Pet Associated Illnesses
- Hemorrhagic Fevers
- Malaria
- Mycobacterium Diseases
- Coccidiomycosis
- Mycotic Illness
- Nematodes
- Cestodes and Trematodes
- Amebiasis and Giardiasis
- Strategies for Infection Control

**GASTRO-ENTEROLOGY**

- Anatomy of the Gastro-Intestinal System
- Physiology of the Gastro-Intestinal System
- Signs and Symptoms of Gastrointestinal Disease
- Esophageal Disease
- Stomach and Duodenal Disorders
- Small Intestinal (SI) Disease
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Bowel Disease
- Splenic Conditions
- Liver Disease
- Cirrhosis and Encephalopathy
- Cholelithiasis and Other Biliary Tract Disease
- Pancreatic Disease

**PEDIATRICS**

- Neonatal and Pediatric Physical Examination
- Growth, Development, and Feeding
- Fever
- Respiratory Illness
- Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat Diseases
- Genitourinary System Disorders
- Gastrointestinal Diseases
- Hematologic Disorders and Neoplasms
- Cardiovascular Diseases
- Nervous System Disorders
- Pediatric Endocrine Disorders
- Pediatric Orthopedics
- Pediatric Emergencies and Accidents
- Pediatric Infectious Disease
- Problems in Adolescent Patients
- Child Abuse
- Developmental Neurological and Psychological Disorders
- Common Congenital Syndromes
- Pediatric Surgery
- Pediatric Skin Problems

**GERIATRICS**

Physiology of Aging  
Functional Assessment of the Elderly  
Presentation of Disease in the Elderly  
Health Promotion and Disease Prevention  
Sexuality and Aging  
Syndromes of Altered Mental Status in the Elderly  
Trauma of the Elderly  
Geriatric Dermatology  
Sleep Problems in the Elderly

**PSYCHIATRY**

Stress Management  
Psychiatric Interviewing  
Organic Brain Syndrome  
Affective Disorders  
Psychotic Disorders  
Anxiety Disorders  
Somataform Disorders  
Factitious Disorders  
Personality Disorders  
Death/Mourning/Adjustment Disorders  
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
Suicidal, Hostile, Violent or Fearful Patients  
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder  
Critical Incident Stress Disorders  
Introduction to Substance Abuse  
Depression Related illness  
Diagnostic Criteria for Substance Abuse

This listing denotes the categories of medication with which the PA should have academic familiarity as described in Specific Competency 4.11.a. The PA may not prescribe or administer any controlled or prescription medication unless specifically authorized to do so by the supervising physician.

**1. Medications affecting the central nervous system.**

- 1.a Opioid analgesics and antagonists.
- 1.b Anesthetics.
- 1.c Anticonvulsants.
- 1.d Antiparkinsonism agents.
- 1.e Anxiolytics, hypnotic and antagonists.
- 1.f Neuroleptics.
- 1.g Non-narcotic analgesics.
- 1.h Paralytics.

**2. Medications affecting the autonomic nervous system.**

- 2.a Adrenergic agonists.
- 2.b Adrenergic antagonists.
- 2.c Cholinergic agonists.
- 2.d Cholinergic antagonists.
- 2.e Antihistamines.

**3. Medications affecting the respiratory system.**

- 3.a Bronchodilators.
- 3.b Diuretics.
- 3.c Vasoconstrictors.
- 3.d Inhaled anti-inflammatory products.

**4. Medications affecting the cardiovascular system.**

- 4.a Antihypertensive agents.
- 4.b Cardiac glycosides.
- 4.c Antidysrhythmics.
- 4.d Antianginal agents.
- 4.e Antilipidemics.

**5. Medications affecting blood clotting mechanism.**

- 5.a Anticoagulants.
- 5.b Thrombolytics.
- 5.c Platelet inhibitors.

**6. Medication affecting the gastrointestinal system.**

- 6.a Antiemetics.
- 6.b Histamine-2 receptor antagonists.
- 6.c Protein pump inhibitors.

**7. Medications affecting labour, delivery and postpartum hemorrhage.**

- 7.a Uterotonics.
- 7.b Tocolytics.

**8. Medications used to treat electrolyte and substrate imbalances.**

- 8.a Vitamin and electrolyte supplements.
- 8.b Oroglycemic agents and insulin.
- 8.c Hyperglycemic agents.
- 8.d Colloid and crystalloid infusions.

**9. Medications used to treat / prevent inflammatory responses and infections.**

- 9.a Antibiotics.
- 9.b Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories.
- 9.c Corticosteroids.
- 9.d Immunizations.
- 9.e Antivirals.
- 9.f Antipyretics.
- 9.g Antimicrobials.
- 9.h Desiccants.

**10. Medications used to treat poisoning and overdose.**

- 10.a Antidotes.
- 10.b Neutralizing agents.
- 10.c Cathartics.
- 10.d Emetics.

