

Neonatal – Perinatal Medicine Milestones for the Middle East



May 2017

The Neonatal – Perinatal Medicine Milestones for the Middle East

The Milestones are designed only for use in evaluation of fellows in the context of their participation in ACGME-I-accredited fellowship programs. The Milestones provide a framework for the assessment of the development of the resident/fellow in key dimensions of the elements of physician competency in a 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.

Milestones Reporting

This document presents milestones designed for programs to use in semi-annual review of fellow performance and reporting to the ACGME-I. Milestones are knowledge, skills, attitudes, and other attributes for each of the ACGME-I competencies organized in a developmental framework from less to more advanced. They are descriptors and targets for fellow performance as a learner moves from entry into their program through graduation.

For each period, review and reporting will involve selecting milestone levels that best describe each fellow's current performance and attributes. Milestones are arranged in numbered levels. Tracking from "Level 1" to "Level 5" is synonymous with moving from novice to expert in the subspecialty. These levels do not correspond with time in the educational program. Dependent upon previous education and experience, fellows may enter a program at varying points in the Milestones.

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

Level 1: These learner behaviors are not within the spectrum of developing competence. Instead, they indicate significant deficiencies in a fellow's performance.

Level 2: Describes behaviors of an early learner.

Level 3: Describes behaviors of a fellow who is advancing and demonstrating improvement in performance related to milestones.

Level 4: Describes behaviors of a fellow who substantially demonstrates the milestones identified for a physician who is ready for unsupervised practice. This column is designed as the graduation target, but the fellow may display these milestones at any point during fellowship.

Level 5: Describes behaviors of a fellow who has advanced beyond those milestones that describe unsupervised practice. These milestones reflect the competence of an expert or role model and can be used by programs to facilitate further professional growth. It is expected that only a few exceptional fellows will demonstrate these milestones behaviors.

Additional Notes

The “Level 4” Milestones are designed as the graduation *target* and *do not* represent a graduation *requirement*. Making decisions about readiness for graduation is the purview of the program director. Study of Milestones performance data will be required before the ACGME-I and its partners will be able to determine whether milestones in the first four levels appropriately represent the developmental framework, and whether Milestone data overall are of sufficient quality to be used for high-stakes decisions.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Milestones are posted on the ACGME-I website.

The diagram below presents an example set of milestones for one sub-competency in the same format as the ACGME-I Report Worksheet. For each reporting period, a learner’s performance on the milestones for each sub-competency will be indicated by selecting the level of milestones that best describes that learner’s performance in relation to those milestones.

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 (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
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
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not yet achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Selecting a response box in the middle of a level implies that milestones in that level and in lower levels have been substantially demonstrated.

Selecting a response box on the line in between levels indicates that milestones in lower levels have been substantially demonstrated as well as **some** milestones in the higher level(s).

Patient Care 1: Provide Transfer of Care that Ensures Seamless Transitions				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Uses the standard template for the information provided during the handoff in a somewhat efficient manner for simple cases</p> <p>Completes handoff with some variability in the accuracy of the provided information.</p>	<p>Uses standard handoff template efficiently but is not able to adapt to more complex cases</p> <p>May have errors in adding or deleting information in the handoff template</p>	<p>Modifies and adapts the handoff template according to individual cases</p> <p>May have minimal errors in adding or deleting information in the handoff template</p>	<p>Modifies and adapts the handoff template for increasingly complex cases</p> <p>Makes no errors in adding or deleting information in handoff template</p>	<p>Modifies and adapts the handoff template regardless of the complexity of cases and without committing any errors</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not yet achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Patient Care 2: Make Informed Diagnostic and Therapeutic Decisions that Result in Optimal Clinical Judgment				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Provides a complete history and performs a comprehensive examination Provides a long list of relevant differential diagnosis without any diagnostic and therapeutic plan	Provides a concise list of differential diagnoses with unclear diagnostic and management plan	Provides individualized differential diagnosis with a clear plan for a specific medical problem	Provides a thorough and individualized diagnostic and management plan	Diagnoses and manages rare and complex conditions with ease using a holistic approach
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Patient Care 3: Develop and Carry Out Management Plans				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Follows management plans and instructions created by others	Carries out some of his/her own management plans	Carries out clear management plans in accordance with institutional policies	Develops and carries out management plans based on experience	Develops and carries out management plans, even for complicated or rare situations
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Patient Care 4: Provide Appropriate Role Modeling				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Performs routine duties and behaviors of profession without awareness of the impact on those around him/her</p> <p>May or may not reflect on actions as they occur (reflection in action) and does not share reflections with others</p>	<p>Is inconsistently aware of the impact of his/her behaviors and attitudes on others</p> <p>Sometimes teaches by example</p> <p>Occasionally reflects openly on events as they occur (reflection in action) and privately on events that have already taken place (reflection on action)</p>	<p>Is conscious of being a role model during many interactions</p> <p>Frequently teaches by example and often reflects in action openly in the presence of learners</p> <p>Behavior change implies frequent private reflection on action</p>	<p>Is conscious of being a role model during most interactions</p> <p>Routinely teaches by example</p> <p>Regularly reflects in action and frequently reflects on action, sharing this analysis of practice with learners</p>	<p>Role modeling is a habit</p> <p>Recognizes that he or she is a role model in all actions and behaviors at all times</p> <p>Characteristically teaches by example</p> <p>Routinely reflects both in action and on action</p> <p>Examines, analyzes, and explains actions/behaviors in the presence of learners and colleagues</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Medical Knowledge 1: Locate, Appraise, and Assimilate Evidence from Scientific Studies Related to their Patients' Health Problems				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Explains basic principles of evidence-based medicine (EBM), but relevance is limited by lack of clinical exposure	<p>Recognizes the importance of using current information to care for patients and responds to external prompts to do so</p> <p>Is able to formulate questions with some difficulty, but is not yet efficient with online searching</p> <p>Is starting to learn critical appraisal skills</p>	<p>Is able to identify knowledge gaps as learning opportunities</p> <p>Makes an effort to ask answerable questions on a regular basis and is becoming increasingly able to do so</p> <p>Understands varying levels of evidence and can utilize advanced search methods</p> <p>Is able to critically appraise a topic by analyzing the major outcomes, however, may need guidance in understanding the subtleties of the evidence</p> <p>Begins to seek and apply evidence when needed, not just when assigned to do so</p>	<p>Is increasingly self-motivated to learn more, as exhibited by regularly formulating answerable questions</p> <p>Incorporates use of clinical evidence in rounds and teaches fellow learners</p> <p>Is quite capable with advanced searching</p> <p>Is able to critically appraise topics and does so regularly</p> <p>Shares findings with others to try to improve their abilities</p> <p>Practices EBM because of the benefit to the patient and the desire to learn more rather than in response to external prompts</p>	<p>Teaches critical appraisal of topics to others</p> <p>Strives for change at the organizational level as dictated by best current information</p> <p>Is able to easily formulate answerable clinical questions and does so with majority of patients as a habit</p> <p>Is able to effectively and efficiently search and access the literature</p> <p>Is seen by others as a role model for practicing EBM</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

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
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

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 utilizing the roles of the interprofessional teams	Coordinates care of patients in complex clinical situations effectively utilizing the roles of their interprofessional teams	Role models effective coordination of patient-centered care among different disciplines and specialties	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 handoffs	Performs safe and effective transitions of care/handoffs in routine clinical situations	Performs safe and effective transitions of care/handoffs in complex clinical situations	Role models and advocates for safe and effective transitions of care/handoffs within and across health care delivery systems, including outpatient settings	Improves quality of transitions of care within and across health care delivery systems to optimize patient outcomes
Demonstrates knowledge of population and community health needs and disparities	Identifies specific population and community health needs and inequities for their local population	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	Leads innovations and advocates for populations and communities with health care inequities
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Systems-Based Practice 3: Physician Role in Health Care Systems				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Identifies components of the complex health care system	Describes the physician's role and how the interrelated components of complex health care system impact patient care	Analyzes how personal practice affects the system (e.g., length of stay, readmission rates, clinical efficiency)	Manages the interrelated components of the complex health care systems for efficient and effective patient care	Advocates for or leads change to enhance systems for high value, efficient, and effective patient care
Describes basic health payment systems, including government, private, public, and uninsured care and different practice models	Delivers care informed by patient specific payment model	Utilizes shared decision making in patient care, taking into consideration payment models	Advocates for patient care understanding the limitations of each patient's payment model (e.g., community resources, patient assistance resources)	Participates in advocacy activities for health policy to better align payment systems with high value care
		Identifies resources and effectively plans for transition to practice (e.g., information technology, legal, billing and coding, financial, personnel)	Describes basic elements needed to transition to practice (e.g., contract negotiations, malpractice insurance, government regulation, compliance)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

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 in order to care for a routine patient	Articulates clinical questions and elicits patient preferences and values in order 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 guidelines
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

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	Demonstrates openness to performance data (feedback and other input) in order to inform goals	Seeks performance data episodically, with adaptability and humility	Intentionally seeks performance data consistently, with adaptability and humility	Role models consistently seeking performance data, with adaptability and humility
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
Actively seeks opportunities to improve	Designs and implements a learning plan, with prompting	Independently creates and implements 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
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Professionalism 1: Professional Behavior and Ethical Principles				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Identifies and describes potential triggers for professionalism lapses</p> <p>Describes when and how to appropriately report professionalism lapses, including strategies for addressing common barriers</p> <p>Demonstrates knowledge of the ethical principles underlying informed consent, surrogate decision making, advance directives, confidentiality, error disclosure, stewardship of limited resources, and related topics</p>	<p>Demonstrates insight into professional behavior in routine situations</p> <p>Takes responsibility for own professionalism lapses</p> <p>Analyzes straightforward situations using ethical principles</p>	<p>Demonstrates professional behavior in complex or stressful situations</p> <p>Analyzes complex situations using ethical principles</p> <p>Recognizes need to seek help in managing and resolving complex ethical situations</p>	<p>Recognizes situations that may trigger professionalism lapses and intervenes to prevent lapses in self and others</p> <p>Recognizes and utilizes appropriate resources for managing and resolving ethical dilemmas as needed (e.g., ethics consultations, literature review, risk management/legal consultation)</p>	<p>Coaches others when their behavior fails to meet professional expectations</p> <p>Identifies and seeks to address system-level factors that induce or exacerbate ethical problems or impede their resolution</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Professionalism 2: Accountability/Conscientiousness				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Takes responsibility for failure to complete tasks and responsibilities, identifies potential contributing factors, and describes strategies for ensuring timely task completion in the future</p> <p>Responds promptly to requests or reminders to complete tasks and responsibilities</p>	<p>Performs tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with appropriate attention to detail in routine situations</p> <p>Recognizes situations that may impact own ability to complete tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner</p>	<p>Performs tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with appropriate attention to detail in complex or stressful situations</p> <p>Proactively implements strategies to ensure that the needs of patients, teams, and systems are met</p>	<p>Recognizes situations that may impact others' ability to complete tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner</p>	<p>Takes ownership of system outcomes</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Professionalism 3: Self-Awareness and Help-Seeking				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Recognizes status of personal and professional well-being, with assistance</p> <p>Recognizes limits in the knowledge/skills of self or team, with assistance</p>	<p>Independently recognizes status of personal and professional well-being</p> <p>Independently recognizes limits in the knowledge/skills of self or team</p> <p>Demonstrates appropriate help-seeking behaviors</p>	<p>With assistance, proposes a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being</p> <p>With assistance, proposes a plan to remediate or improve limits in the knowledge/skills of self or team</p>	<p>Independently develops a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being</p> <p>Independently develops a plan to remediate or improve limits in the knowledge/skills of self or team</p>	<p>Coaches others when emotional responses or limitations in knowledge/skills do not meet professional expectations</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 1: Patient- and Family-Centered Communication				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>Uses language and non-verbal behavior to demonstrate respect and establish rapport</p> <p>Identifies common barriers to effective communication (e.g., language, disability) while accurately communicating own role within the health care system</p> <p>Identifies the need to adjust communication strategies based on assessment of patient/family expectations and understanding of their health status and treatment options</p>	<p>Establishes a therapeutic relationship in straightforward encounters using active listening and clear language</p> <p>Identifies complex barriers to effective communication (e.g., health literacy, cultural)</p> <p>Organizes and initiates communication with patients/families by introducing stakeholders, setting the agenda, clarifying expectations, and verifying an understanding of the clinical situation</p>	<p>Establishes a therapeutic relationship in challenging patient encounters</p> <p>When prompted, reflects on personal biases while attempting to minimize communication barriers</p> <p>With guidance, sensitively and compassionately delivers medical information; elicits patient/family values, goals and preferences; and acknowledges uncertainty and conflict</p>	<p>Easily establishes therapeutic relationships, with attention to patient/family concerns and context, regardless of complexity</p> <p>Independently recognizes personal biases while attempting to proactively minimize communication barriers</p> <p>Independently uses shared decision making to align patient/family values, goals, and preferences with treatment options to make a personalized care plan</p>	<p>Mentors others in situational awareness and critical self-reflection to consistently develop positive therapeutic relationships</p> <p>Role models self-awareness practice while identifying teaching a contextual approach to minimize communication barriers</p> <p>Role models shared decision making in patient/family communication in situations with a high degree of uncertainty/conflict</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 2: Interprofessional and Team Communication				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Respectfully requests a consultation	Clearly and concisely requests a consultation	Checks own understanding of consultant recommendations	Coordinates recommendations from different members of the health care team to optimize patient care	Role models flexible communication strategies that value input from all health care team members, resolving conflict when needed
Respectfully receives a consultation request	Clearly and concisely responds to a consultation request	Checks understanding of recommendations when providing consultation	Communicates feedback and constructive criticism to superiors	Facilitates regular health care team-based feedback in complex situations
Uses language that values all members of the health care team	Communicates information effectively with all health care team members Solicits feedback on performance as a member of the health care team	Uses active listening to adapt communication style to fit team needs Communicates concerns and provides feedback to peers and learners		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 3: Communication within Health Care Systems				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Accurately records information in the patient record	Demonstrates organized diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning through notes in the patient record	Concisely reports diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning in the patient record	Communicates clearly, concisely, in a timely manner, and in an organized written form, including anticipatory guidance	Models feedback to improve others' written communication
Safeguards patient personal health information	Demonstrates accurate, timely, and appropriate use of documentation shortcuts	Appropriately selects direct (e.g., telephone, in-person) and indirect (e.g., progress notes, text messages) forms of communication based on context	Produces written or verbal communication (e.g., patient notes, e-mail, etc.) that serves as an example for others to follow	Guides departmental or institutional communication around policies and procedures
Communicates through appropriate channels as required by institutional policy (e.g. patient safety reports, cell phone/pager usage)	Documents required data in formats specified by institutional policy	Uses appropriate channels to offer clear and constructive suggestions to improve the system	Initiates difficult conversations with appropriate stakeholders to improve the system	Facilitates dialogue regarding systems issues among larger community stakeholders (e.g., institution, health care system, field)
	Respectfully communicates concerns about the system			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				Not Yet Achieved Level 1 <input type="checkbox"/>