



# European Curriculum of Internal Medicine

11<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Belgium



## Agenda

10:30 Welcome Coffee – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Foyer

11:00 Welcome to the Meeting - *EFIM President Elect, Runolfur Palsson* – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Red Auditorium

Chairman of the day: *Nica Cappellini, EFIM Past-President*

11:10 Background to Development of the Curriculum – *Rijk Gans, Vice - President EBIM*

12:00 Presentation of the Curriculum and Amendments – *Runolfur Palsson*

13:00 Lunch and Opportunity to Meet the Working Group Members – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Foyer

14:00 Discussion of Selected Comments from National Societies

14:45 Topics Arising from Lunchtime Discussion

15:00 Duration of Training and the Common Trunk – *Runolfur Palsson*

15:30 Dual Certification– *Runolfur Palsson*

16:15 EPAs and Competencies - Based System- *Rijk Gans*

17:00 Concluding Remarks and Future Perspectives

17:15 End of the Meeting & Cocktail – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Foyer |



## 16:15 EPAs and Competencies - Based System

Rijk Gans,  
Vice-president European Board of Internal Medicine



- ▶ World Health Organization (1978):
  - ▶ *“The intended output of a competency-based programme is a health professional who can practise medicine at a defined level of proficiency, in accord with local conditions, to meet local needs.”*

**McGaghie WC, Miller GE, Sajid AW, Telder TV. Competency-based Curriculum Development in Medical Education. World Health Organization, Switzerland, 1978.**

# Competency

***The habitual and judicious use of communication, knowledge, technical skills, clinical reasoning, emotions, values, and reflection in daily practice for the benefit of the individual and the community being served.***

Epstein RM, Hundert EM. Defining and assessing professional competence. JAMA 2002



*Lancet* 2010; 376: 1923–58



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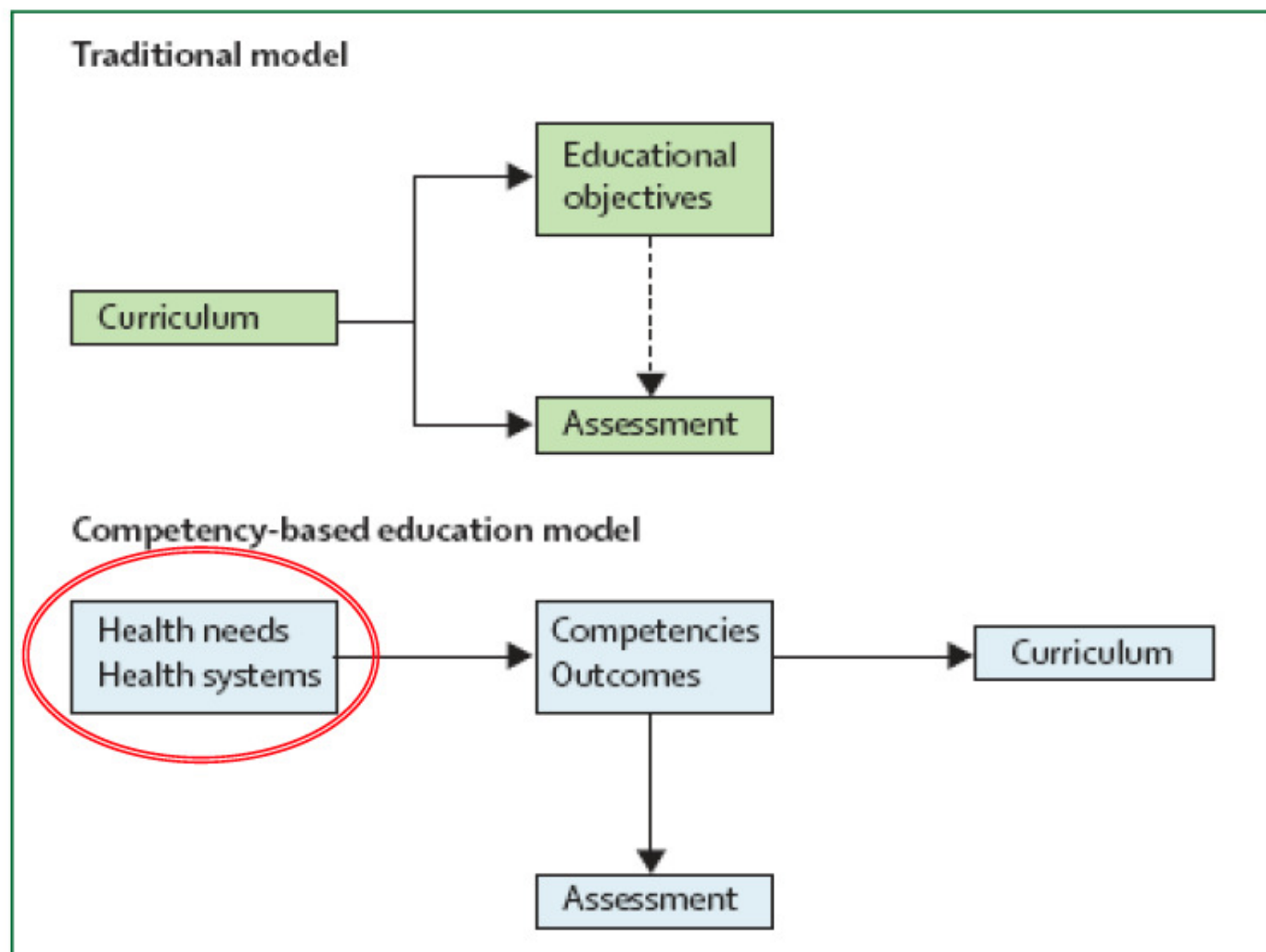
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# THE LANCET

## Health professionals for a new century: transforming education to strengthen health systems in an interdependent world

*Julio Frenk\*, Lincoln Chen\*, Zulfiqar A Bhutta, Jordan Cohen, Nigel Crisp, Timothy Evans, Harvey Fineberg, Patricia Garcia, Yang Ke, Patrick Kelley, Barry Kistnasamy, Afaf Meleis, David Naylor, Ariel Pablos-Mendez, Srinath Reddy, Susan Scrimshaw, Jaime Sepulveda, David Serwadda, Huda Zurayk*



Frenk J. Health professionals for a new century: transforming education to strengthen health systems in an interdependent world. Lancet. 2010



# Competency-Based Medical Education

...is an outcomes-based approach to the design, implementation, assessment and evaluation of a medical education program using an organizing framework of competencies<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Frank, JR, Snell LS, ten Cate O, et. al. Competency-based medical education: theory to practice. Med Teach. 2010; 32: 638–645



# Mandates of Outcomes-based Training

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- ▶ Programs must be able to demonstrate that students, residents and fellows graduate with high levels of abilities (e.g. competencies) appropriate for the stage of training.
- ▶ Exposure and dwell time are not sufficient proxies for competence
- ▶ Not shooting for “the floor” of competence; excellence is the goal





# Educational Program

	Educational Program	
Variable	Structure/Process	<i>Competency-based</i>
Driving force: curriculum	Content-knowledge acquisition	<i>Outcome-knowledge application</i>
Driving force: process	Teacher	<i>Learner</i>
Path of learning	Hierarchical (Teacher→student)	<i>Non-hierarchical (Teacher↔student)</i>
Responsibility: content	Teacher	<i>Student and Teacher</i>
Goal of educ. encounter	Knowledge acquisition	<i>Knowledge application</i>
Typical assessment tool	Single subject measure	<i>Multiple objective measures</i>
Assessment tool	Proxy	<i>Authentic (mimics real tasks of profession)</i>
Setting for evaluation	Removed (gestalt)	<i>Direct observation</i>
Evaluation	Norm-referenced	<i>Criterion-referenced</i>
Timing of assessment	Emphasis on summative	<i>Emphasis on formative</i>
Program completion	Fixed time	<i>Variable time</i>

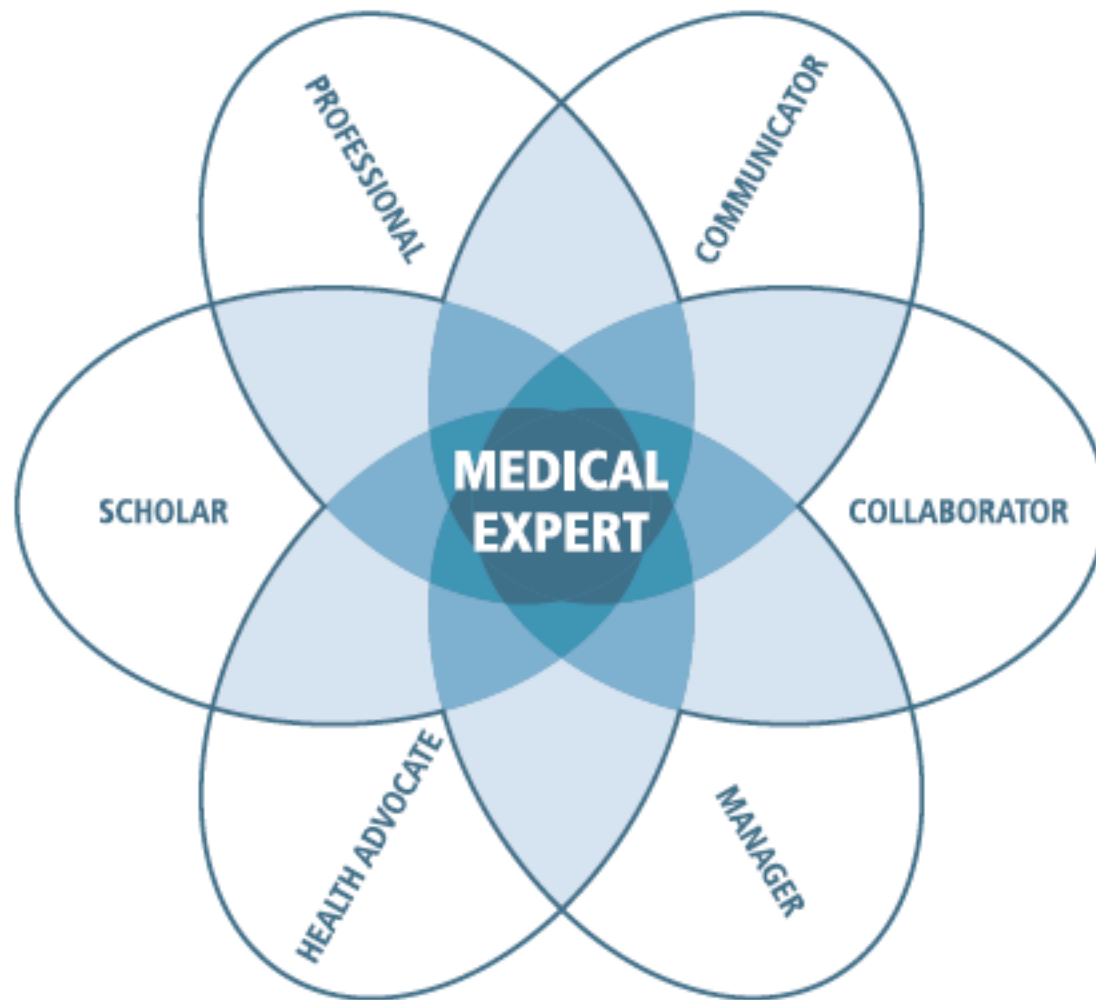
Carraccio C, Wolfsthal SD, Englander R, Ferentz K, Martin C. Shifting paradigms: from Flexner to competencies. Acad Med. 2002;77(5):361-7.

# Core Competencies



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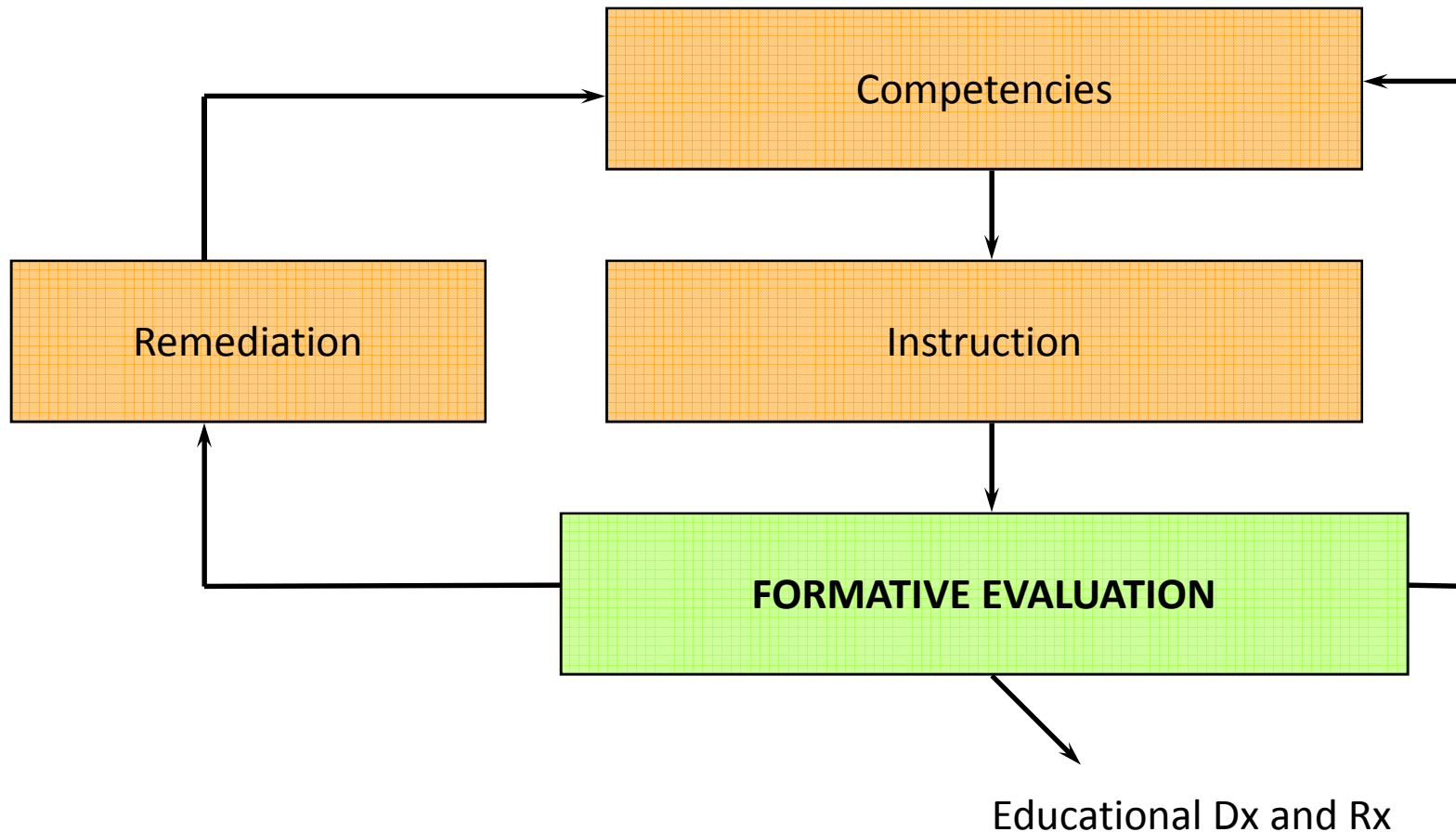
Competencies constitute a framework that describes the qualities of professionals

Framework provides generalized descriptions to guide learners, their supervisors, and institutions in teaching and assessment

# Competency-Based Education

- Provides *clarity* of learning direction for both faculty and residents
- Creates *accountability* around the process and outcomes of learning
- Requires *relationship-based* teacher/learner interaction
- Provides an *opportunity* for added *safety* in education

# Competency Based Education

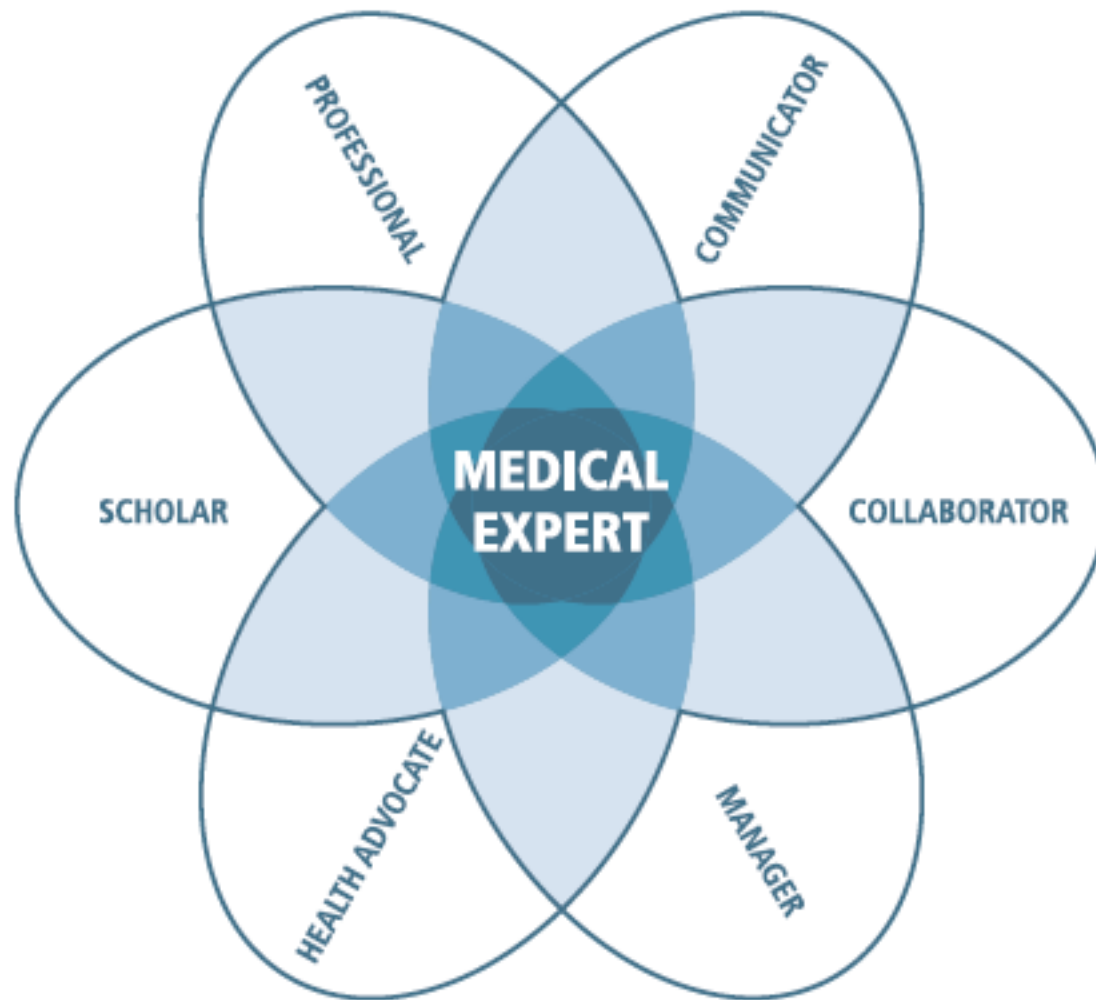


# Core Competencies



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Difficulties teaching  
Competencies

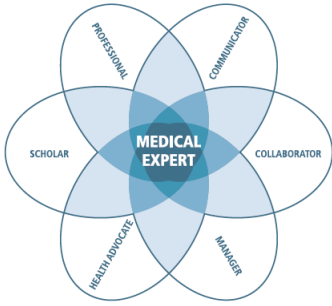
Domains are broad and  
diverse

Often teachers focus on  
isolated behaviors

Often does not transcend  
Scholar and Communicator

How to translate to the  
world of medical practice ?





# Core Competencies



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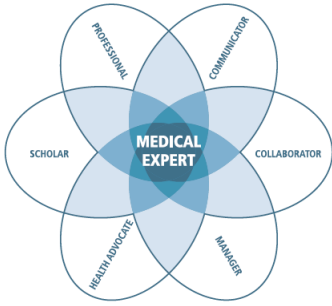


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Innovations from the field:

- Milestones
- Entrustable Professional Activities



# Core Competencies



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## Milestones

- stages in the development of specific competencies; a continuum from medical school through residency to practitioner.
- give us a learning roadmap



# Road to Mastery

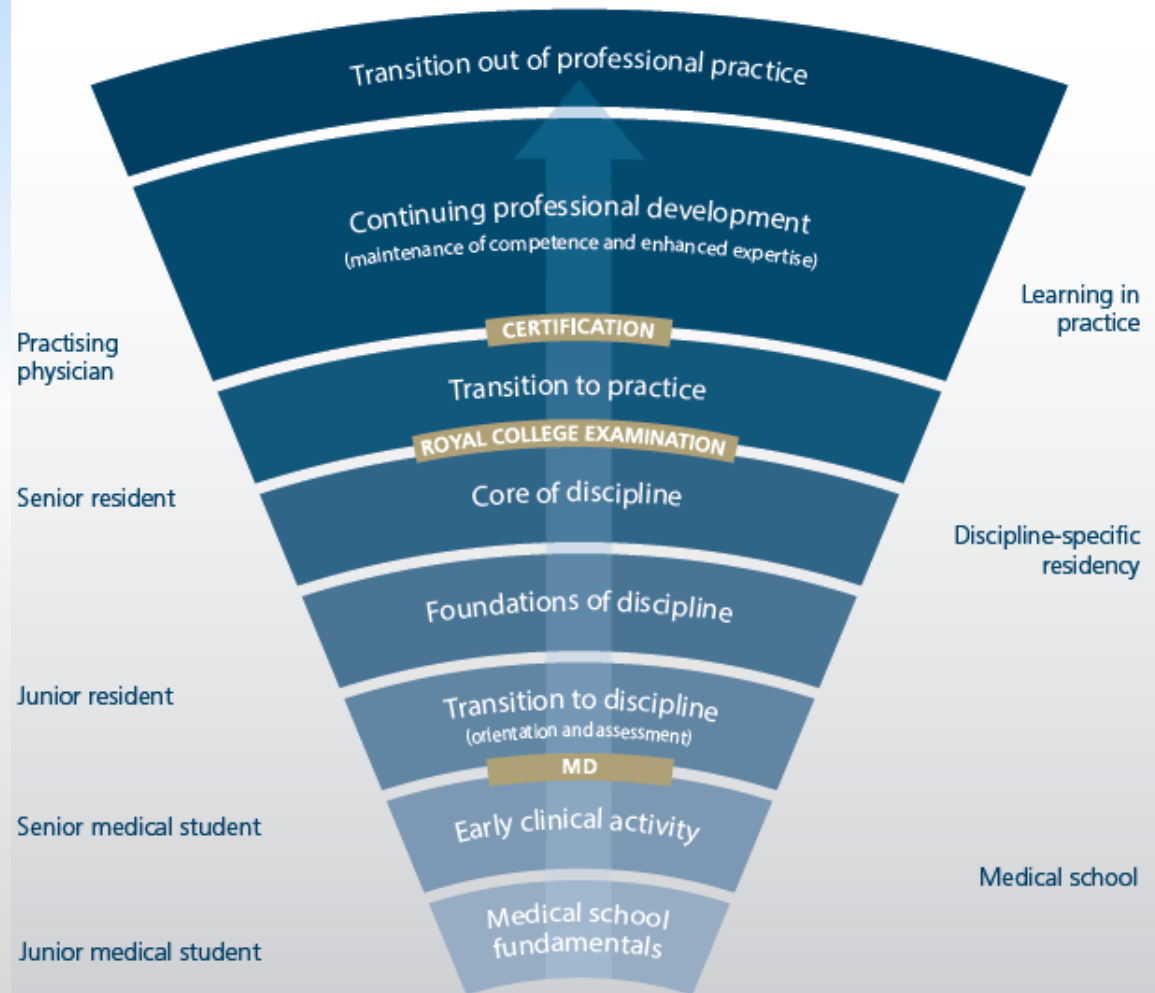
## The Competence Continuum



Traditional stages

Proposed CBD stages<sup>1,2</sup>

Medical education phases

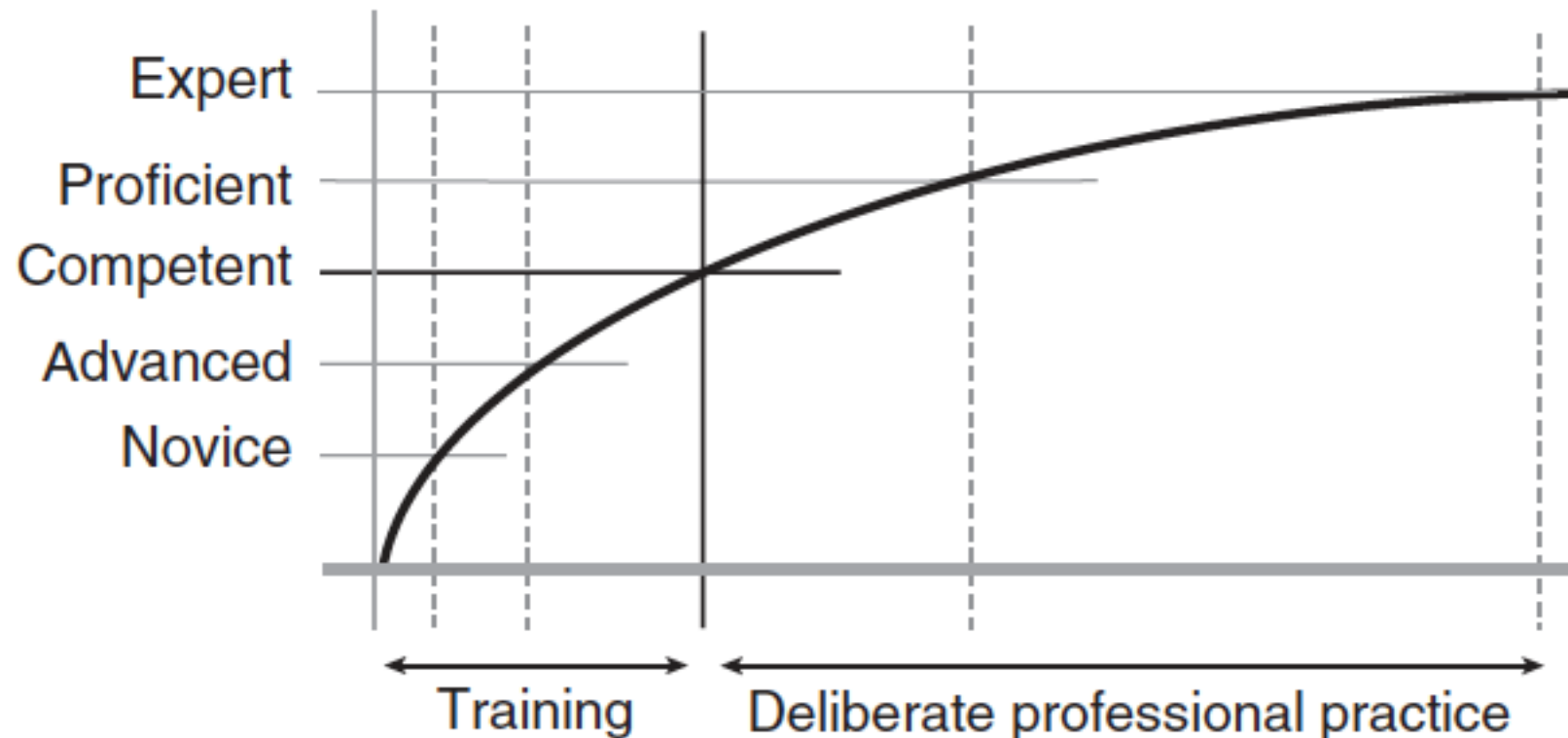


<sup>1</sup> Competence by Design (CBD)

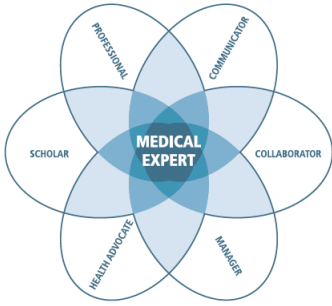
<sup>2</sup> Milestones at each stage describe terminal competencies



## Skills acquisition or Learning curve



General curve of skills acquisition, using the stages of Dreyfus and Dreyfus (1988). Dotted lines signify hypothetical moments at which a trainee reaches a competence threshold level for a given activity



# Core Competencies

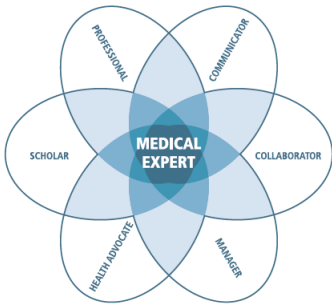


## Milestones

- stages in the development of specific competencies; a continuum from medical school through residency to practitioner.
- give us a learning roadmap

► *But the roadmap must be grounded in a clinical context to make it meaningful : **entrustable professional activities***





# Core Competencies



## Entrustable Professional Activities

- Translate competencies into clinical practice
  - ▶ Professional life activities that define the specialty, defined as tasks or responsibilities to be entrusted to unsupervised execution by a trainee
  - ▶ Ground the competencies in a physician's everyday work
  - ▶ Activities lead to some outcome that can be observed
  - ▶ Complexity of the activities requires an integration of knowledge, skills and attitudes across competency domains
- Competencies are descriptors of physicians, EPAs are descriptors of work.



# Why EPAs?

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- ▶ They align what we assess with what we do
- ▶ They make sense to faculty, trainees, and the public
- ▶ Add a valuable dimension to assessment-
- ▶ ENTRUSTMENT

# Clinical Care and Accountability

- Tasks of clinical care may be delegated
    - this is a critically important teaching strategy
    - Implicit Entrustment Decision
  - Accountability for clinical care may not be delegated
    - While residents may deliver care, faculty remain fully accountable for the care that is delivered
- *How to transfer Responsibility and Accountability?***



# Entrustment Decisions

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- ▶ We make them every day when we work clinically with learners
- ▶ EPAs provide a mechanism for formalizing this process
  - ▶ Direct observation of pre-determined EPAs not random aspects of performance
  - ▶ Degree of supervision determines the decision to entrust
  - ▶ Entrustment is awarded when the assessor determines the learner can perform the EPA without direct supervision



# Entrustment Decisions

1. Observation but no execution, even with direct supervision
2. Execution with direct, proactive supervision
3. Execution with reactive supervision, ie, on request and quickly available
4. Supervision at a distance and/or post hoc
5. Supervision provided by the trainee to more junior colleagues

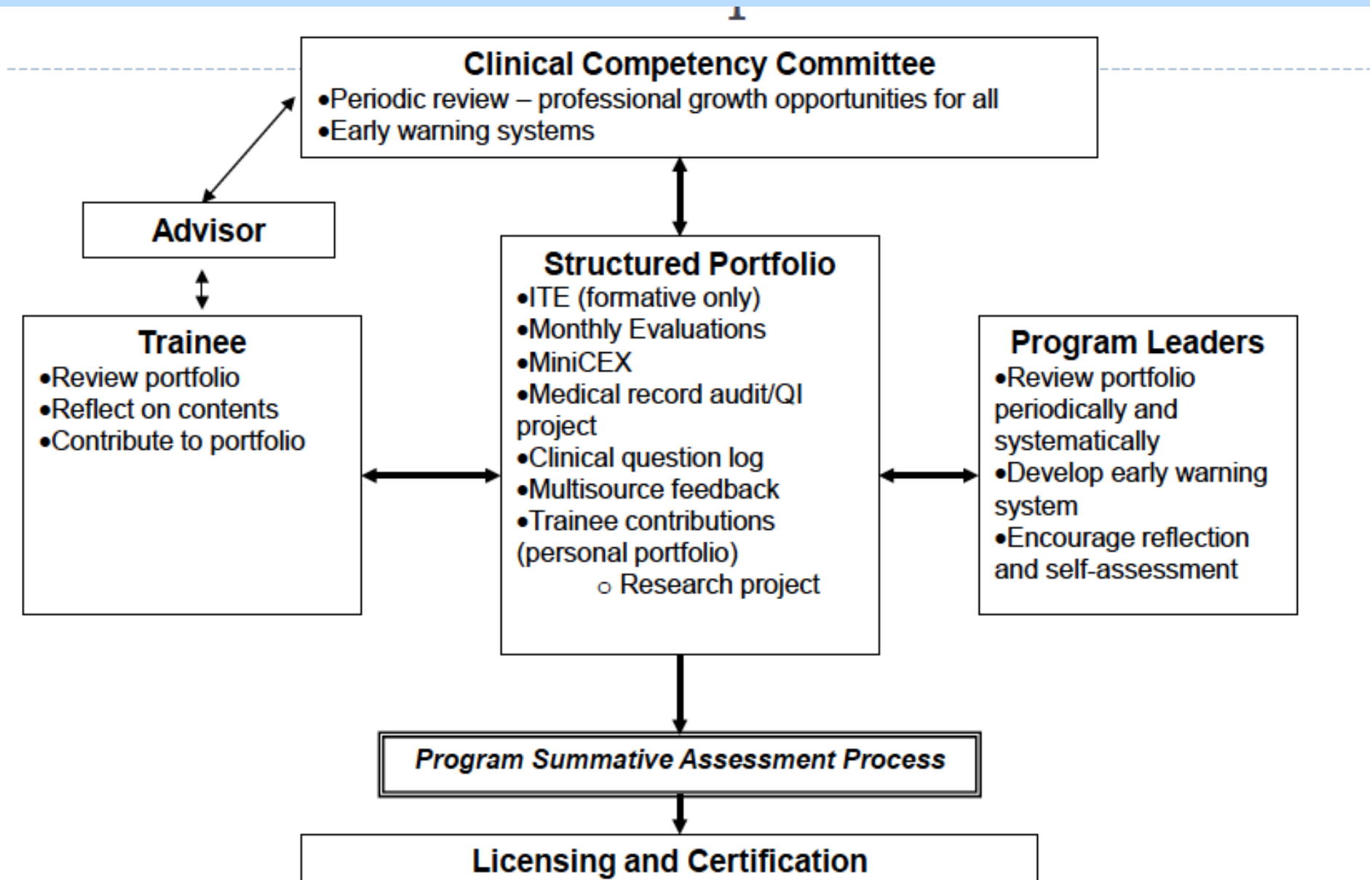


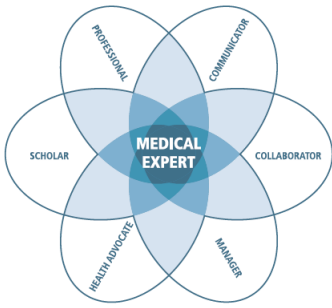


# Assessment Challenges:

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- ▶ CBME requires robust, multi-faceted assessment *systems*
  - ▶ No single assessment method “sufficient”
  - ▶ Trained faculty essential
  - ▶ Cultural change paramount
- ▶ Programs will need appropriate *structural* elements with effective programmatic assessment *processes* to produce *educational and clinical outcomes*





# Core Competencies



## Entrustable Professional Activities

- Translate competencies into clinical practice
  - ▶ Professional life activities that define the specialty, defined as tasks or responsibilities to be entrusted to unsupervised execution by a trainee
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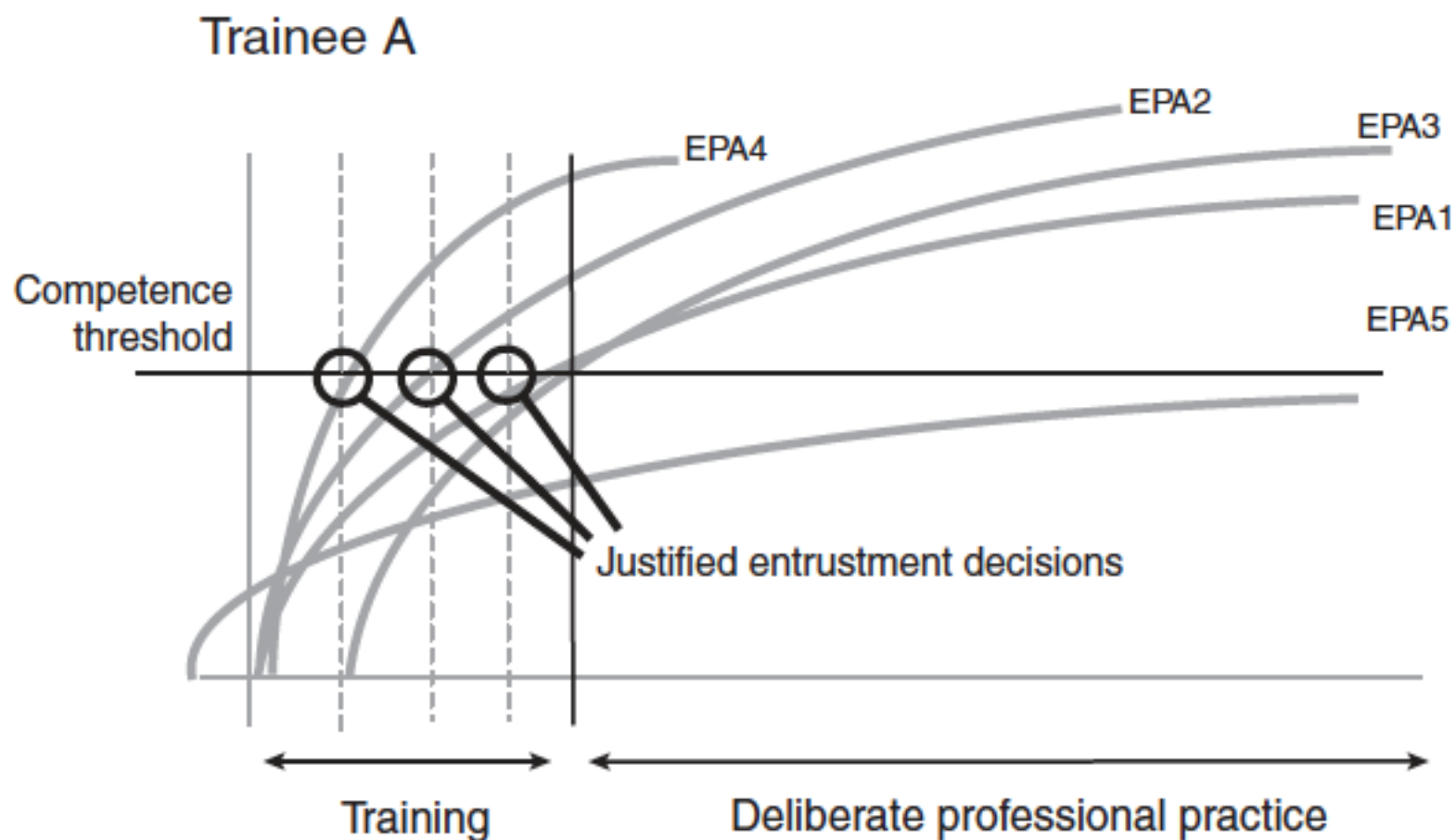
# Road to Mastery



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# How to build EPA's



**TABLE 2** GUIDELINES FOR FULL ENTRUSTABLE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTIONS

1. Title	Make it short; avoid words related to proficiency or skill. Ask yourself: Can a trainee be scheduled to do this? Can an entrustment decision for unsupervised practice for this EPA be made and documented?
2. Description	To enhance universal clarity, include everything necessary to specify the following: What is included? What limitations apply? Limit the description to the actual activity. Avoid justifications of why the EPA is important, or references to knowledge and skills.
3. Required Knowledge, Skills, and Attitudes (KSAs)	Which competency domains apply? Which subcompetencies apply? Include only the most relevant ones. These links may serve to build observation and assessment methods.
4. Required KSAs	Which KSAs are necessary to execute the EPA? Formulate this in a way to set expectations. Refer to resources that reflect necessary or helpful standards (books, a skills course, etc).
5. Information to assess progress	Consider observations, products, monitoring of knowledge and skill, multisource feedback.
6. When is unsupervised practice expected?	Estimate when full entrustment for unsupervised practice is expected, acknowledging the flexible nature of this. Expectations of entrustment moments can shape an individual workplace curriculum.
7. Basis for formal entrustment decisions	How many times must the EPA be executed proficiently for unsupervised practice? Who will judge this? What does formal entrustment look like (documented, publicly announced)?



# Template for EPA



Area of practice	Rotation title			
Stage of training	Stage			Version
The following EPA will be entrusted when your supervisor is confident that you can be trusted to perform the activity described to the required standard with the required level of supervision or none at all. Your supervisor will expect you to know when to ask for additional help; s/he will also trust you to seek assistance as appropriate and in a timely manner.				
Title				
Description				
Competencies	ME	sub competencies #	HA	Sub competencies #
	COM	sub competencies # sub competencies #	SCH	Sub competencies #
	COL	sub competencies #	PROF	Sub competencies #
	LEAD	sub competencies #		
Knowledge, skills and attitude required	Competence is demonstrated if the trainee has shown sufficient aspects of the knowledge skills and attitude described below			
	Ability to apply an adequate knowledge base			
	Skills			
	Attitude			
Assessment method	Continuous assessment during individual and clinical supervision			
Suggested assessment method details	Case based discussions; multisource feedback			

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; LEAD, Leader; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar

Not Prescriptive!

Area of practice	Rotation title			
Stage of training	Stage		Year 1	Version
The following EPA will be entrusted when your supervisor is confident that you can be trusted to perform the activity described to the required standard with the required level of supervision or none at all. Your supervisor will expect you to know when to ask for additional help; s/he will also trust you to seek assistance as appropriate in a timely manner.				
Title	Producing discharge summaries and organising appropriate transfer of care			
Description	The trainee can produce succinct and informative discharge summaries and organise appropriate transfer of care. S/he understands the importance of clinical records in transfer of care and discharge and can make the appropriate arrangements for medication and/or ongoing other treatment and liaise with appropriate clinicians, teams, community, organisations and primary care providers. The trainee formulates relapse prevention and recovery plans in collaboration with the patient and provides appropriate and timely handover of written information. The discharge summaries are succinct yet informative and can function as a clinical handover as well as a historical record of the patient's hospitalisation, treatment and progress including key points of decision making.			
Competencies	ME	sub competencies #	HA	Sub competencies #
	COM	sub competencies #	SCH	Sub competencies #
		sub competencies #		
	COL	sub competencies #	PROF	Sub competencies #
	LEAD	sub competencies #		
Knowledge, skills and attitude required	Competence is demonstrated if the trainee has shown sufficient aspects of the knowledge skills and attitude described below			
	<p><b>Ability to apply an adequate knowledge base</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands the importance of handover of information especially during transition of clinical care</li> <li>Understands the principles of relapse prevention and recovery</li> <li>Demonstrates knowledge of risks associated with transfer of care e.g. loss of information, lack of follow-up</li> <li>Demonstrates knowledge of range of follow-up and community services</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses effective and timely verbal and written communication (including electronic communication where appropriate)</li> <li>Grasps and formulates the essentials of the case and the treatment plan including relapse-prevention and risk-management plans</li> <li>Communicates key points of decision making</li> <li>Communicates and collaborates effectively with patients and families/carers in organising transfer of care</li> <li>Uses discretion where required, avoids pejorative language</li> <li>Appropriately considers confidentiality issues and consent</li> </ul> <p><b>Attitude</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses appropriate means of communication (e.g. telephone) when required</li> <li>Exhibits a patient-centred approach to care</li> <li>Demonstrates willingness to include all appropriate stakeholders in the transfer of care</li> <li>Demonstrates respect for the patient, other members of the multidisciplinary team, patient supports and their views</li> </ul>			
Assessment method	Continuous assessment during individual and clinical supervision			
Suggested assessment method details	Case based discussions; multisource feedback			

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; LEAD, Leader; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar



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Not Prescriptive!

# How many EPA's constitute a curriculum?



An example from the Netherlands:

- Transfer and Continuity of Care
- Rounding a ward
- Being on Call
- Communicating with patients and family
- Medical Decision making
- Leading a team

Start in year 1

- Consultation
- Out-Patient Clinic
- ...
-

**EPA**

Area of practice	Rotation Title		
Stage of training	Stage		Version
Title			

Description	
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**Knowledge, skills and attitude required**

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to Competency

....  
....  
....

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to Competency

....  
....  
....

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to Competency

....  
....  
....

Preconditions e-learning, seminars and/or courses, other EPA's, knowledge tests etc.

Toolbox A variety of assesment methods, progressively assessed during training

Entrustment levels	start of rotation	Supervision level
	halfway rotation	Supervision level
	end of rotation	Supervision level
	expected end of training	Supervision level

Entrustment criteria

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; LEAD Leader; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar

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# EPA

Area of practice	Rotation Title		
Stage of training	Stage		Version
Title			

Description	
-------------	--

## Knowledge, skills and attitude required

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to Competency

....  
....  
....

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to

....  
....  
....

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestone

....  
....

Preconditions e-learning, seminars and/or courses, other EPA's, knowledge tests etc.

Toolbox A variety of assesment methods, progressively assessed during training

Entrustment levels	start of rotation	Supervision level
	halfway rotation	Supervision level
	end of rotation	Supervision level
	expected end of training	Supervision level

Entrustment criteria

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; LEAD Leader; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar



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## Preconditions:

- E-learning
- Seminars and/or courses
- Knowledge tests, exams
- Other EPA's



# EPA

Area of practice	Rotation Title		
Stage of training	Stage		Version
Title			

Description	
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## Knowledge, skills and attitude required

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to Competency

....  
....  
....

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to Competency

....  
....  
....

Competency (ME, COM, COL, LEAD, HA, SCH, Prof)

Milestones related to Competency

....

Preconditions e-learning, seminars and/or courses, other EPA's, knowledge tests etc.

Toolbox A variety of assessment methods, progressively assessed during training

Entrustment levels	start of rotation	Supervision level
	halfway rotation	Supervision level
	end of rotation	Supervision level
	expected end of training	Supervision level

Entrustment criteria

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; LEAD Leader; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar



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## Toolbox (of Assessment)

- Minimal set of WBA of different activities
- Certificates (exams, e-learning)
- OSATS
- Multisource Feedback

# EPA

Area of practice	Rotation Title	
Stage of training	Stage	Version
Title		
Description		



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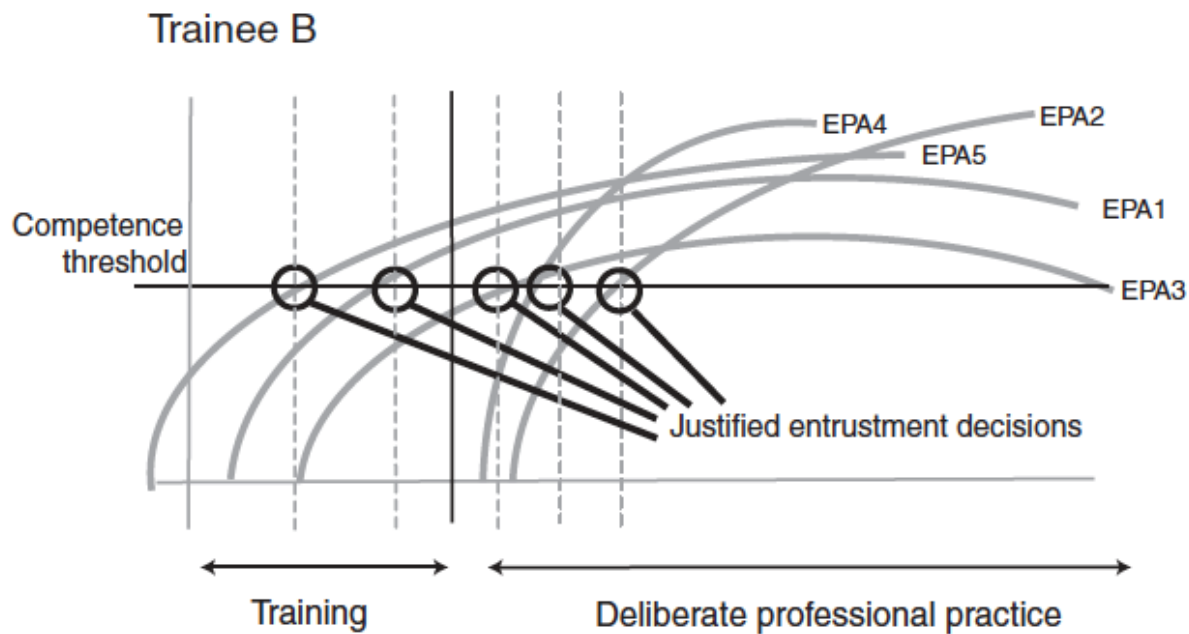
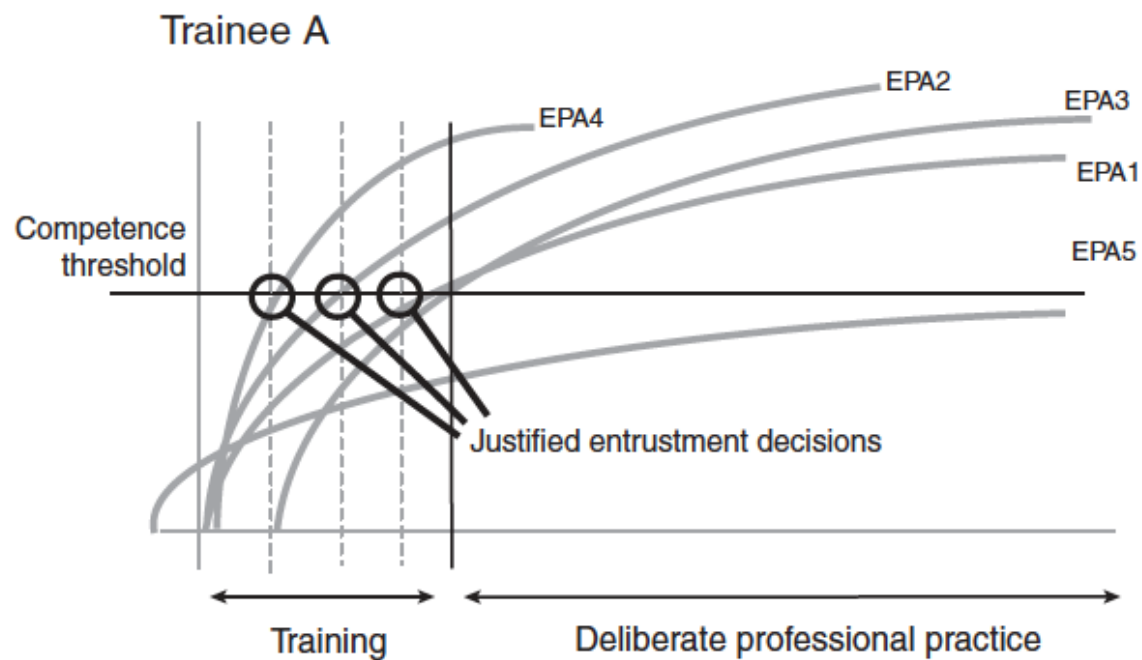


Competency (ME,	start of rotation	Supervision level
	halfway rotation	Supervision level
	end of rotation	Supervision level
Competency (ME,	expected end of training	Supervision level

Preconditions	e.g. previous rotations, courses, other EPA's, knowledge tests etc.	
Toolbox	A variety of assesment methods, progressively assessed during training	
Entrustment levels	start of rotation	Supervision level
	halfway rotation	Supervision level
	end of rotation	Supervision level
	expected end of training	Supervision level
Entrustment criteria		

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; LEAD Leader; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar





Entrustment granted if,

1 all activities of the minimal set that should be appraised are graded sufficient

2 different WBA's shared by at least 3

3 entrustment discussion

- Welcome feedback and treat it productively
- Recognise the scope of his/her abilities and ask for supervision and assistance when appropriate
- Recognise and address personal, psychological, and physical limitations that may affect performance
- Demonstrate empathy and compassion to patients and family under all circumstances
- Speak up in situations in the clinical (training) environment where patient safety may be compromised
- Address, in a sensitive and supportive way, behaviour that compromises collegiality in the workplace and a respectful environment
- Reflect (in action) when surprised, apply new insights to future clinical scenarios, and reflect (on action) when looking back

Stage of training	Stage	First Year Internal Medicine	Version
Title	WARD ROUND		
Description	Trainee is responsible and accountable for the care of patients admitted to a medical ward. To this purpose, the trainee evaluates patients on a daily basis and adjust diagnostic and therapeutic plans, if appropriate, in close collaboration with other professionals.		
Knowledge, skills and attitude required			
Medical Expert			
	Obtain a relevant history from the patient in an efficient, compassionate, and factual manner Perform a physical examination that is appropriately targeted to the patient's symptoms. Identify pertinent abnormalities using recognised techniques Prioritise differential diagnoses and develop evidence-based diagnostic and therapeutic care plans for common inpatient and ambulatory conditions Accurately monitor important changes in the patient's physical condition through examination over time in outpatient and inpatient settings ....		
Collaboration			
	Carry out timely interactions with colleagues, patients, and their designated carers Establish care plan in a respectful way with other multidisciplinary team members Consider management suggestions and alternative solutions provided by other team mates and modify care plan as appropriate ....		
Leader			
	Perform ward rounds in an efficient and timely manner Ensure prompt completion of clinical, administrative and curricular tasks Seek performance assessments and reflect on how they will modify future performance		
Preconditions	e-learning BMJ clinical reasoning seminar in time management completed graduate training		
Toolbox	WBA transfer of care WBA ward round WBA grand round with supervisors WBA patient encounter WBA medical record Knowledge exam Regional and National Study days Multisource feedback (supervisors, colleagues and nurses) E-learning certificates		
Entrustment levels		Supervision level 2	
	halfway rotation	Supervision level 3	
	end of rotation	Supervision level 4	
	expected end of training	Supervision level 5	
Entrustment criteria			



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## WARD ROUND

# How many EPA's constitute a curriculum?



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An example from the Netherlands:

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Start in year 1

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