

College of Medicine

Guiding Principles for the New Directions Task Force

In our work in redesigning the medical school curriculum at Upstate Medical University, we will be guided by the following principles:

1. The Content of the Curriculum will:

- a. Be responsive to societal needs, physician practice patterns, national standards, and developments in biomedical science.
- b. Be focused on Upstate Medical University's Graduation Competencies and Educational Program Objectives.
- c. Emphasize the longitudinal integration of early clinical exposure and relevant biomedical sciences into the evidence-base of clinical medicine.
- d. Equip students with the skills for and commitment to lifelong and active learning in the areas of:
 - i. Critical thinking and self-directed learning
 - ii. Information management and technology
 - iii. Continuous quality assessment and improvement in healthcare delivery
- e. Incorporate opportunities for student-directed experiential learning in research, scholarship, and service.
- f. Provide students with the knowledge and communication skills to:
 - i. Comprehend and manage socially, biologically and economically diverse patients
 - ii. Devise healthcare plans and partnerships centered on the patient's needs
- g. Integrate instruction in professional development topics:
 - i. Ethics and professional responsibility
 - ii. Personal health and stress management
 - iii. Time management

2. The Delivery of the Curriculum will:

- a. Be respectful of and responsive to the needs of students.
- b. Be designed to evolve with changes in societal needs, national standards, and technological enhancements.
- c. Emphasize both efficiency and logical sequencing, and eliminate unintentional repetition and outmoded information.
- d. Be based on active learning principles, best educational practice and research-based educational principles.
- e. Incorporate early authentic clinical experiences from the first year.

3. The Student Assessments will:
 - a. Be developed using Upstate Medical University's Graduation Competencies and Educational Program Objectives.
 - b. Emphasize authenticity with respect to the work of a physician.
 - c. Be structured to accommodate the development of new physicians.
4. Continuous Improvement of the Curriculum will be provided by a system that incorporates:
 - a. Continuous educational quality assessment and improvement.
 - b. Ongoing review and feedback by students and faculty.
 - c. Input and opinion from relevant stakeholders.
 - d. Support and opportunity for the study of educational innovations.