Gathers essential and accurate information about the patient
- Obtains a complete history and performs a detailed and accurate physical examination
- Demonstrates knowledge of how to access adjunctive sources of information (family, outside records, caretaker).

Makes informed diagnostic and therapeutic decisions based on patient information, current scientific evidence, clinical judgment, and patient preference
- Utilizes the appropriate laboratory tests and imaging studies to evaluate medical problems and interprets the results
- Reviews imaging studies with a radiologist’s guidance for accurate interpretation when appropriate
- Utilizes subspecialty consultation appropriately
- Identifies and accesses available resources to gather information from the medical literature
- Assesses the utility and appropriateness of a clinical trial in the care of the individual patient
- Formulates and prioritizes a differential diagnosis based on information from the patient, current scientific information and sound clinical judgment
- Recognizes limitations of his/her level of training and seeks help appropriately
- Demonstrates sensitivity to the preferences of patients and their families when arriving at a management plan

Carries out patient management plans
- Defines the need for appropriate follow-up based on diagnosis, performance status, anticipated complications from therapeutic interventions and psychosocial issues
- Counsels and educates patients and families regarding diagnosis and management plans
- Plans for appropriate measures to gauge the effectiveness of treatment

Designs appropriate surgical plans
- Assesses alternative treatment options
- Demonstrates knowledge of the indications for surgical procedures
- Recognizes variations of surgical approaches and selects appropriate approach for the clinical situation
- Discusses anesthetic and airway management with anesthesia team pre-op
- Prepares operative team for logistic needs of the case
- Obtains necessary medical data and consultation with other surgical services that may be required intra-operatively
- Accurately describes procedures to patients and caretakers in language that is appropriate to their educational, developmental, and emotional status

Performs operation skillfully
- Plans surgical access effectively
- Handles tissue carefully but definitively
- Obtains adequate exposure
- Utilizes assistants to maximum advantage
- Advances efficiently from point to point during the procedure
- Recognizes goals of operation and regularly achieves them
- Overcomes obstacles during operation to achieve goals
- Understands when and why the goals of the operation are not achievable

Provides appropriate Peri-Operative care
- Provides appropriate pre-operative medical assessment
- Outlines appropriate post-operative care for medical team
- Communicates with nursing staff the nuances of patient’s medical history and surgical procedure
- Obtains and responds to appropriate post-operative data
- Assesses patient recovery daily
- Determines appropriate time and requirements for safe discharge
- Arranges follow-up visits, tests, medications as indicated
- Coordinates in-hospital and post discharge rehab needs
- Arranges for necessary home-care supplies prior to discharge
- Instructs patient and caregivers on home care

Sensitively and accurately counsels patients and families
- Provides accurate and up-to-date information to guide patients and their families in making informed decisions
- Provides good and bad news in a sensitive and professional manner
- Handles patient and family emotional response or calls in help as needed

Provides effective health maintenance and anticipatory guidance
- Provides appropriate health maintenance and anticipatory guidance based on age, gender, and risk factors
- Identifies appropriate community resources to address patient needs

Uses information technology to optimize patient care
- Uses information technology to practice evidence-based medicine and enhance patient care