

HUMANISM

Humanism in Internal Medicine is a set of defined knowledge, skills, and attitudes that brings about an admirable clinical process and desired health outcomes. Other competencies that are not readily assigned to these related areas include the actual knowledge and skills underlying, and essential to, working with patients (and colleagues).

Core topics include:

- The medical interview
- Behavioral medicine
- Medical ethics

They enable patients and physicians to deal with:

- Real problems
- The full range of reactions and needs associated with medical problems and processes
- The life and lifestyle issues that contribute to health and disease.

See also: Communication Skills, Professionalism, Ethics, Nursing Home Care, and other clinical disciplines.

Competencies for Legal Medicine

Competency	Learn in a seminar or conference	Learn as a part of a clinical rotation
Know the legal definition of privacy and its implications for medical care	X	
Discriminate correctly among requests to breach the confidentiality of patient records	X	
Identify patients who are incompetent to direct their own care and which of their surrogates are legally empowered to direct the patient's care	X	Geriatrics
Implement advance directives for end-of-life medical care	X	All rotations
Know the ethical and statutory constraints on the withdrawal or withholding of treatment	X	
Practice the methods of personal risk management (documentation, communication and instruction, informed consent, and follow-up) to avoid frivolous claims of malpractice	X	Continuity and general internist offices
Know statutory requirements to report events (for example, death, reportable diseases, abuse, and neglect) to civil authorities and know how to respond in order to ensure compliance with these regulations	X	
Know the administrative regulations that govern medical practice and know how to respond in order to be in compliance	X	
Know the principles of business law that affect the practice of medicine*	X	Certain private
Know how bioethics and legal medicine relate to one another	X	

Illustrative Clinical Settings: Any clinical setting, but particularly those that involve conflicts that require the application of legal medicine principles for resolution.

* Elective