FOUNDATIONS OF DISCIPLINE (FOD)
EPA ASSESSMENT COMPLETION GUIDE

PROCESS AT A GLANCE

TOOLS: Please use the following tools in Medsquares: FOD-0, FOD-1, FOD-2, FOD-2B, FOD-2C, FOD-3, FOD-4, FOD-5, FOD-6, FOD-7, COD-5

PROCESS: The Royal College and your program require that you complete the assessment requirements for 11 EPAs during Foundation of Discipline which covers Blocks 5-13 of the PGY1 year. You will continue to complete COD-5 (Procedures of Internal Medicine) for the rest of your training.

The specific requirements for each EPA assessment are outlined below. We suggest that you review this document prior to each block, and at regular intervals. We also recommend that at the start of each week you review your Medsquares dashboard to identify 2-3 possible EPAs that you might be able to complete that week, and plan the timing with your supervisor at the start of the week, with the understanding that EPA completion will be dependent on cases seen on any given day. There will be unique opportunities that come up during the day (e.g. an unstable patient or a procedure) that you or your supervisor might decide is better for the EPA completion on that day. The goal is to complete 1-2 clinical EPAs per week, plus procedural ones.

EPA assessment may be initiated by you or your supervisor.

ENTRUSTMENT SCALE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Direction</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Autonomy</th>
<th>Excellence</th>
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The EPAs are assessed using the global entrustment scale. PGME defines entrustment as the Autonomy and Excellence categories. Residents are not expected to be entrustable each time an EPA is completed, this normally takes repeated effort to achieve. To be considered competent, you are expected to receive a certain number of entrustments for each EPA.

BREAKDOWN BY EPA

EPA FOD-0: Assessing and managing patients with straightforward chronic medical conditions

Number of EPA assessments: Complete a minimum of 4 FOD-0 EPA assessments during FOD, when assessing and managing patients with chronic illness in the ambulatory setting.

Clinical scenarios: A variety of common chronic medical conditions

Observation: Direct observation** by at least 2 different supervisors

Success: Completion with entrustment (Autonomous or Excellence) in 4 EPAs, then move on to COD-2 (Assessing and managing patients with complex chronic medical conditions).
**EPA FOD-1**: Assess, diagnose and provide initial management for patients with common acute medical presentations

**Number of EPA assessments**: Complete a minimum of 10 FOD-2 EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios**: Chest pain, SOB, altered LOC, fever, hemodynamic instability, other

**Observation**: Direct observation** in at least 5; at least 3 must be in the ED, at least 3 from faculty

**Success**: Completion of the requirements above and entrustment (Autonomous or Excellence) for 10 acutely ill patient EPAs

**EPA FOD-2A**: Manage patients admitted to acute care with common medical problems and advancing their care plans

**Number of EPA assessments**: Complete a minimum of 8 FOD-2 EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios**: Cardio, Endocrine, Haem, GI; Geriatrics, ID, Nephro, Neuro, Respiratory, Other

**Observation**: Direct observation** or indirect observation;

**Success**: Completion of the requirements above and entrustment (Autonomous or Excellence) for 8 acutely ill patient EPAs

**EPA FOD-2B**: Communicating with patients

**Number of EPA assessments**: Complete a minimum of 2 FOD-2B EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios**: Cardio, Endocrine, Haem, GI; Geriatrics, ID, Nephro, Neuro, Respiratory, Other

**Observation**: Type of observation: indirect with input from patient/family; direct observation of interaction

**Success**: Autonomous or Excellence for 2 patient EPAs

**EPA FOD-2C**: Performing handover for patients admitted to acute care settings

**Number of EPA assessments**: Complete a minimum of 3 FOD-2C EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios**: Any acute scenario

**Observation**: At least 2 by attending staff

**Success**: Autonomous or Excellence for 3 patient EPAs

**EPA FOD-3**: Consulting specialists and other health professionals

**Number of EPA assessments**: Complete a minimum of 4 FOD-3 EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios**: Ambulatory care; inpatient; emergency department

**Observation**: Role of observer: supervisor; physician specialist being consulted; other health professional. At least two in ambulatory setting, at least one other health professional, at least one other physician specialist, at least two from supervisor

**Success**: Autonomous or Excellence for 4 patient EPAs

**EPA FOD-4**: Formulating, communicating, and implementing discharge plans

**Number of EPA assessments**: Complete a minimum of 4 FOD-4 EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios**: Acute illness in hospital; at least one complex hospital stay

**Observation**: Discharge plan **documentation**: Indirect observation; Discharge plan **communication**: direct observation

**Success**: 2 of each (documentation and communication)
### EPA FOD-5 Assessing and managing the unstable patient

**Number of EPA assessments:** Complete a minimum of 7 FOD-5 EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios:** acute respiratory distress; hemodynamic instability; altered level of consciousness

**Observation:** direct, indirect; ED; step-down unit; critical care unit; ward; simulation

**Success:** Autonomous or Excellence for 7 patient EPAs; maximum 3 simulated; must cover all 3 case-types

### EPA FOD-6 Discussing and establishing patients’ goals of care

**Number of EPA assessments:** Complete a minimum of 3 FOD-6 EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios:** stable acute condition; unstable acute condition; progressive medical condition; in-patient, ambulatory; at least one substitute decision maker

**Observation:** Direct** observations; at least 2 faculty; at least 2 different assessors

**Success:** Autonomous or Excellence for 3 patient EPAs

### EPA FOD-7 Identifying and addressing personal learning needs

**Number of EPA assessments:** Complete a minimum of 12 FOD-7 EPA assessments during your 9 blocks of FOD.

**Clinical Scenarios:** wide variety of acute and chronic types of illnesses

**Settings:** Can be across ED; ambulatory; ward

**Observation:** Complete Personal Learning Need form or complete formal rounds based on a patient case

**Success:** Autonomous or Excellence for 12 patient EPAs

### EPA COD-5: Performing the procedures of Internal Medicine

**Number of EPA assessments:** 35, over 3 years

**Procedures:** Paracentesis, Thoracentesis, Lumbar puncture, Knee Aspiration, (Central Line Insertion, Arterial Line Insertion, Endotracheal intubation and Airway management -- Bag & mask ventilation, Code Blue)*

**Observation:** Direct

**Success:** Do as available, ultimately will require 5 successful for each procedure (*those in italics are normally completed in PGY2 and PGY3)

**COMPLETION:** Completion of the minimum 18 EPA assessments listed above and the entrustment requirements. Your EPA assessments will be reviewed by the Competence Committee at regular meetings. The Competence Committee determines your progress looking at the overall picture. Future EPA assessment completion requirements will depend on the Competence Committee report and recommendations, and the overall Royal

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**APPENDIX**

**What constitutes a direct observation?**
A direct observation is one where your assessor observed you during a step of patient management (e.g. while completing a history, completing a physical exam, talking to the patient about discharge instructions, or observing you do a procedure etc.)

**What constitutes an indirect observation?**
An indirect observation is one where your assessor infers information based on collateral information (e.g. from your charting, speaking directly to a patient, examining a patient after you have examined the patient, speaking to nursing staff about your interpersonal skills etc.)