

Doctor of Chiropractic Program Graduate Competencies

CMCC Model of Care Statement:

Chiropractic a primary contact health care profession with expert knowledge in spinal and musculoskeletal health, emphasizing differential diagnosis, patient centered care, and research.

Critical Performance Outcome:

Graduates of the CMCC Doctor of Chiropractic program are primary contact health care professionals with expert knowledge in spinal and musculoskeletal health emphasizing differential diagnosis, patient centered care, and research.

Preamble

The Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College has adopted CanMEDS educational framework¹ for a competency-based education for its Doctor of Chiropractic Program.

Competency in health professional education is defined as a demonstrable ability of a health professional that develops through stages of expertise from novice to clinician. CMCC's graduate competency framework describes seven roles that will be satisfied through several key competencies. Each of the enabling competencies acts as a potential pathway to ensure that the key competencies are achieved¹.

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A. Expert in Spinal and Musculoskeletal Health

Definition:

As experts in spinal and musculoskeletal health chiropractors develop, evolve, integrate, and apply evidence based clinical knowledge, skills and attitudes consistent with chiropractic scope of practice.

Key Competencies	Enabling Competencies
Chiropractors are able to:	
<p>1. Formulate differential diagnoses that account for the cause of a patient's complaint(s) and/or abnormal finding(s).</p>	<p>1.1 Obtain a relevant, comprehensive patient history utilizing knowledge of the basic and clinical sciences.</p> <p>1.2 Conduct a skilled and relevant physical examination, with particular emphasis on the musculoskeletal system, while considering patient safety and clinical urgency.</p> <p>1.3 Interpret the information from the History and/or Physical Examination.</p> <p>1.4 Request and/or refer for specialized testing procedures, such as diagnostic imaging and/or clinical laboratory tests, as indicated by the clinical status of the patient.</p> <p>1.5 Interpret relevant specialized testing procedures, such as diagnostic imaging and/or clinical laboratory tests, as indicated by the clinical status of the patient.</p>
<p>2. Develop and deliver an evidence-based patient-centered plan of management.</p>	<p>2.1 Respond reasonably to identified clinical findings suggesting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1.1 Direct management 2.1.2 Collaboration 2.1.3 Referral 2.1.4 Emergency Care <p>2.2 Recognize and respond to prognostic factors.</p> <p>2.3 Obtain informed consent from the patient or their substitute decision maker.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrate the proficient performance of diagnostic procedures and therapeutic interventions.</p>	<p>3.1 Perform manual (adjustive/manipulative mobilization and/or soft tissue) therapeutic procedures for patient care with modification of treatment parameters to accommodate the particular needs of the patient.</p> <p>3.2 Perform interventions other than manual therapeutic interventions within the scope of chiropractic practice.</p> <p>3.3 Perform select diagnostic procedures when warranted.</p>

B. Communicator

Definition:

As communicators, chiropractors listen, ask, interact, and respond to questions, to determine the patient's needs, values, and preferences³.

Key Competencies	Enabling Competencies
Chiropractors are able to:	
1. Communicate in a collaborative, responsive, and responsible manner that is meaningful to the recipient.	1.1 Establish rapport and trust with patients and/or other stakeholders, colleagues, and other professionals, in compliance with privacy and other relevant legislation. 1.2 Communicate with external stakeholders and/or the public in a professional manner.
2. Document, maintain, and share written and electronic information about the patient encounter ² .	2.1 Optimize clinical decision-making, patient safety, confidentiality and privacy ⁴ .
3. Obtain appropriate informed consent from the patient or their substitute decision maker.	3.1. Present the report of findings.

C. Collaborator

Definition:

As collaborators, chiropractors understand the scope of practice of other health care professionals and use this to develop relationships “based on trust, respect, and shared decision making”⁵.

Key Competencies	Enabling Competencies
Chiropractors are able to:	
1. Employ knowledge of the chiropractic scope of practice and of other health care professions to promote patient/family and public health goals.	1.1 Promote partnerships with other healthcare professionals in support of the well-being of individual patients.
2. Collaborate on an inter- and intra-professional basis for patient referral and/or co-management, as necessary.	2.1 Make appropriate referrals to other health care professionals for the purpose of requesting diagnostic tests and/or therapeutic care.

D. Health Advocate

Definition:

As health advocates, chiropractors “contribute their expertise and influence as they work with”⁵ patients and other stakeholders, or communities to maintain and/or improve health⁶.

Key Competencies	Enabling Competencies
Chiropractors are able to:	
1. Advocate for health, health promotion, safety, disease prevention, and quality of life for individual patients, and communities.	1.1 Provide advice and patient education for health advocacy subject to scope of practice ⁷ . 1.2 Support the mobilization of resources to effect change ⁶ .

E. Scholar

Definition:

As scholars, chiropractors demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning, the teaching of others, evaluating evidence and/or contributing to scholarship⁸.

Key Competencies	Enabling Competencies
Chiropractors are able to:	
1. Utilize evidence-based knowledge to promote effective patient-centered care.	1.1 Proficient in knowledge acquisition. 1.2 Practice critical appraisal, application, translation and/or creation of health care knowledge and practice ⁹ . 1.3 Apply principles of knowledge translation (KT) in inter- and/or intra-professional collaboration, and/or patient education, and/or care.

F. Professional

Definition:

As professionals, chiropractors are committed to the health and well-being of individual patients and society through ethical practice, high personal standards of behaviour, accountability to the profession and society, and adherence to regulations¹⁰.

Key Competencies	Enabling Competencies
Chiropractors are able to:	
1. Demonstrate sensitivity to cultural and sociodemographic diversity.	1.1 Provide safe, respectful and inclusive patient care. 1.2 Operate in a harassment free and non-discriminatory manner ^{11,12} .
2. Demonstrate a commitment to the patient, profession and society through ethical behaviour.	2.1 Practice ethically. 2.2 Adhere to the regulations, standards of practice, guidelines, and policy of jurisdiction in which they are practicing.
3. Utilize ethical entrepreneurial skills to develop a chiropractic career.	3.1 Model ethical and legal business practices and policy.
4. Demonstrate knowledge and recognition of the scope of the roles and responsibilities of other health professions.	4.1 Participate effectively in inter- and/or intra-professional activities in a respectful manner.
5. Engage in self-reflection to facilitate continuous improvement.	5.1 Demonstrate continuous improvement in the delivery of patient care, by practicing self-awareness. 5.2 Incorporate ethical behaviour into all interactions with individuals, organizations and communities ¹³ . 5.3 Work effectively and respectfully as a member of an inter-professional team ¹³ .

G. Leader

Definition:

As leaders, chiropractors engage with others to contribute to a vision of a high-quality health care system and take responsibility for the delivery of excellent patient care through their activities¹⁴.

Key Competencies	Enabling Competencies
Chiropractors are able to:	
1. Improve health care delivery.	1.1 Participate in inter- and/or intra-professional activities.
	1.2 Utilize evidence-based knowledge to optimize outcomes.
	1.3 Allocate health care resources for optimal patient care.
2. Develop a career plan.	2.1 Employ psychosocial and entrepreneurial skills and concepts.
	2.2 Balance professional and personal priorities.

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