



CAME Voice/Voix

CanMEDS 2015 is here!

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With the launch of CanMEDS 2015 by the Royal College at the International Conference on Residency Education (ICRE) meeting last month, it is timely to review the major changes in this physician competency framework. Implemented in 1996, revised in 2005 and now updated for 2015, the medical education community will be tasked with adopting the new elements and updating curricular activities in support of these. So what are the new pieces?

Beyond the redesigned logo, the most obvious modification is of a name (and emphasis) change from Manager to Leader. Reflecting societal expectations of physician behaviour but continuing to emphasize the tenets of leader as multifunctional and part of a multidisciplinary team, this speaks to accountability and responsibility. There is a particular focus on quality improvement, supervision, systems thinking, and the notion of physician as change agent.

Within Medical Expert, clinical reasoning and the ability to deal with complexity, ambiguity and uncertainty are featured along with an increasing focus on safe, patient centred care, which flows across and through other roles. The Communicator role emphasizes the importance of the physician's relationships with their patients and their patients' families, while the importance of their relationships with colleagues, teams and other health care providers continues to be highlighted in the Collaborator role. Patient safety emerges here as a component of the need for appropriate handovers and the effective and timely sharing of information.

Functioning as a Health Advocate promotes the partnerships, with patients, colleagues and communities that are needed to accomplish this and calls us to action in implementation of this role with appropriate use of the privileged knowledge and perspectives we attain, both at the individual but also at the systems level. Change agents and systems thinkers reprised.

Scholar incorporates the concepts of evidence informed decision-making, appropriate understanding and use of research in our clinical work in addition to lifelong learning and contributions to the body of medical knowledge.



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And last but definitely not least, the solid foundation of professional identity underpinning the Professional role; a reiteration of the altruism, compassion and caring needed in our commitment and accountability to patients; our social accountability and social contract to provide health care; and personal accountability in our codes of conduct and responsibility to the profession.

With the release of CanMEDS 2015, new frameworks are now being developed, embedding and integrating milestones, entrustable professional activities and competency based education, with a critical focus on outcomes. Much has been done, much more is yet to come ...

See: Frank JR, Snell L, Sherbino J, editors. CanMEDS 2015 Physician Competency Framework. Ottawa: Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. 2015. www.royalcollege.ca/canmeds