CONFIDENCE RATING SCALE
An Approach to the Curriculum of General Practice

Introduction

The educational agenda for General Practice is broad and expanding. It is not possible to cover it all in two six monthly attachments.

The following is an outline of the areas in which a competent GP can be expected to show skill and to have developed the appropriate Knowledge/Skills/Attitudes. It is not comprehensive!

This list can be used as a template for helping to construct a curriculum appropriate to the learning of GP Registrars. Most trainers use it at an initial tutorial with registrars, to uncover areas which the registrar feels less confident about, as a prelude to timetabling.

It will be augmented (and probably supported) by various assessments and by the lessons of practice, but it could also function as a midpoint checklist for a training period, to ensure that all important areas have been considered.

Instructions

Ask the registrar to work through the scale, then arrange to review it with him or her (e.g. at a tutorial).

The items are presented as lines (within paragraph and “chapter” headings).

Mark each line according to self perceived knowledge and importance.

This has been evolved by Course Organisers and Trainer feedback over the years.

Any comments will be welcome:

Malcolm Thomas
Scheme Organiser
NVTS
Primary Care Development Centre
Newcastle General Hospital
Westgate Road
Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 6BE
NAME: ............................................................ DATE: ...........................................

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protocols</th>
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<tr>
<td>Where Protocols come from</td>
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<td>How Protocols are used</td>
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<th>Prevention</th>
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<th>Chronic Disease Management</th>
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<td>Organisational Possibilities</td>
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<td>Recall Systems</td>
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<th>Emergency Care</th>
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<td>Equipment to Carry</td>
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<td>Common Emergencies:</td>
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<td>What to Do</td>
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<td>Drugs to Carry</td>
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<tr>
<th>Clinical Skills</th>
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<tr>
<td>ECR (using dummy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neonatal Resuscitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interpret ECG</td>
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<td>Interpret Lung Function Tests</td>
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<td>Interpret Common Lab Results in GP context</td>
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<tr>
<th>Clinical Examination</th>
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<tr>
<td>Specific systems (CNS, CVS etc)</td>
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<td>PV plus Speculum</td>
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<td>PR plus Proctoscope</td>
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<th>Managing Common Emergencies</th>
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<td>Acute Asthma</td>
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<td>Acute MI</td>
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<td>Acute LVF</td>
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<td>Meningococcal Septicaemia</td>
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<td>Diabetes plus Coma</td>
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CLINICAL DECISION MAKING

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Problem Definition

Hidden Presentations
Weighting Probabilities
Generating Hypotheses

Investigations

Diagnostic use of Time
Lab investigations: appropriate set in 1’ care
Radiology and allied investigations: appropriate selection in 1’ care

Evidence

Generating appropriate questions
Finding appropriate information
Integrating evidence into Patient Care

COMMUNICATIONS

Patients

Models of the Consultation
Tasks to be achieved in Consultations
Breaking Bad News
Telephone Consultations
Patient participation groups
Patient information leaflets

Teamwork

How teams function (Models/In Practice)
Structure of Practice Meetings/Decision Making

Roles of PHCT Members
(Education/What do they do?)

How Partners may differ in role
Practice Nurses
District Nurses
Health Visitors
Community Psychiatry Nurses
Midwife
Practice Managers
Receptionists
Secretaries
Other

Rating Scale

Knowledge:  
(1) Good  
(2) Satisfactory  
(3) Poor

Importance:  
(1) High Priority  
(2) Desirable  
(3) Lowest Priority
### Relationships outside the Practice

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- Role of Trusts
- Role of Consultants in relation to GPs
- Domiciliary visits by Specialists
- Role of Dentists
- Role of Pharmacists
- Role of Opticians
- Role of Department of Public Health
- School Health Service
- Occupational Health Services
- LMC
- GMSC
- MPC
- GMC
- Benefits Agency
- Role of Social SSDS/Workers
- Complementary Practitioners
- Health Authorities
- Primary Care Groups

### Community Resources

- Voluntary Services
- Specific Disease Groups (eg. BDA)
- Services for Disabled
- Probation Services
- Employment/Rehabilitation
- CAB
- DSS Benefits

### Commissioning Health Care

- Role of Health Authorities
- Evidence-Based Commissioning
- Primary Care Groups

### THE BUSINESS OF PRACTICE

### Finance

- Income
- Expenditure
- Tax
- Accounts
- Superannuation
- Financing Premises
- Financing Equipment
- “Red Book” (Statement of Fees & Allowances)
Legal

Legal responsibilities of GPs as Employers
Partnership Contracts
Where to get help
GPs Terms & Conditions of Service

Medical Records

The Basic Medical Record
Summary Databases (Age/Sex; Morbidity)
Computerised Medical Records

Ethical/Personal Issues

Managing time well
Learning to say “no” well
BMA + GMC Ethical Advice
Advertising
Confidentiality
Rationing
Balancing the rights of the individual
with the needs of the Community
Specific ethical dilemmas (please elaborate)

Examination And Certification

Certificates (MED3, MED4 etc)
Private Examination (Insurance, Employment etc)
Death Certificates
Cremation Certificates
Private Certificates
Notifiable Diseases

INFECTIONS DISEASES

Important Childhood Illnesses
(please specify)
Vaccination programmes
D+V
Tropical Diseases seen in UK
Glandular Fever
Hepatitis
Shingles
Food Poisoning
Travellers Diarrhoea
AIDS

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Rating Scale

Knowledge:
(1) Good
(2) Satisfactory
(3) Poor

Importance:
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(2) Desirable
(3) Lowest Priority
### ENT
OM
Glue Ear
Tonsillitis/Sore Throat
Who gets tonsillectomy
Deafness
Hayfever
Meniere’s Disease
Vertigo
Epistaxis
Hoarseness
Use of auriscope

### Geriatrics
“Off legs”
Dizziness
Prescribing in the Elderly

### Eyes
Injury and F/B
Painful Red Eye
Corneal Ulcers
Cataracts
Squint
Glaucoma
Using ophtalmoscope
Testing Visual Acuity

### Chest Disease
Asthma
COAD
Acute RTIs
Influenza
Use of PFM + Vitallograph
TB
Carcinoma of Bronchus

### CVS
BP
Chronic heart failure
IHD Prevention
Angina
MI
ECG Interpretation
PVD
Chilblains
DVT

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- Ante Natal Care
- Home vs GP Unit vs Hospital Labour
- Resuscitation of neonate
- Post Natal Care
- Breast Feeding

Family Planning

- Choice of Method
- The “Gillick” ruling
- Psychosexual Medicine

### GYNAECOLOGY

- Menstrual Disorders
- Hysterectomy and its alternatives
- Vaginal Discharge
- Menopause
- HRT
- Infertility
- Abortions and Abortion Law
- STDs
- Ca Cervix
- Ca Uterus
- Ca Breast
- Cervical Cytology
- Breast Screening
- Breast Self Awareness
- Puberty

### PAEDIATRICS

- Infant Feeding
- Who is the patient (Child or Parent?)
- Child Development
- Congenital Heart Disease
- Congenital dislocation of hip
- Hare lip/cleft palate
- Neuro Tube Defects
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Minor Childhood Symptoms
- Sleeping Problems
- School Problems/Refusal
- Developmental Delay
- Enuresis
- Physical Abuse
- Child Sexual Abuse
- Childrens Act (1989)
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**ONCOLOGY**

Which cancers can be screened for?
Terminal Care management
Symptom control
Radiotherapy
Cytotoxic therapies

**ABDOMEN**

PU/Helicobacter
Irritable Bowel Syndrome
Liver and Biliary Disease
Haemorrhoids
Fissure-in-ano
Acute Abdomen
Diverticular disease

**CNS**

Stroke
Epilepsy
Headache
Brain Tumours
MS
Parkinsons Disease
Vertigo

**ORTHO/RHEUMATOLOGY**

RA
OA
Backache
Gout
Osteoporosis
Management of Trauma
Physiotherapy
Joint Replacement Surgery

**ENDOCRINOLOGY**

DM
Thyroid Diseases
Obesity
Osteoporosis

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**PSYCHIATRY**

Diagnostic Formulation  
Depression  
Anxiety  
Acute Psych Emergency  
Suicide Risk  
Schizophrenia  
Role of clubs/samaritans etc  
Counselling/RELATE  
Mental Health Act (1983)  
Alcoholism  
Substance Abuse  
Transactional Analysis  
Eating Disorders  
Psychosomatic Illness  
Community Care

**SKIN**

Eczema  
Warts  
Infestations (Scabies/Lice)  
Urticaria  
Psoriasis  
Fungal/Yeast Infections  
Arterial ulceration  
Varicose ulceration  
Cancer of Skin  
Rashes: Diagnosis

**GU**

Cystitis  
Prostate Disorders  
Malignancies  
Haematuria  
Incontinence  
Renal Colic  
Renal Failure

**MINOR OPs**

What experience do you have in minor ops?  
What would you LIKE to gain?
GENERAL

Excessive weight loss
Tired all the time
Medically unexplained symptoms
Smoking
Social determinants of ill health

THERAPEUTICS

Writing a prescription
Writing a CD prescription
NHS List of Rx
Prescription charges/exemptions
Drug Reactions
Relationships with “Reps”
PACT + Drug Cost Data
What drugs do you feel least familiar with?

COMMENTS: