

The four EPAs describe essential work undertaken by PGY1 and PGY2 doctors. They are anchored to the prevocational outcome statements in the same domains and thus help align PGY1 and PGY2 doctors roles with both training activities, and assessment and achievement of prevocational outcomes (see Figure 4 for an overview, and Table 1 for structure). Assessment of EPAs provides structured opportunities for observation, feedback and learning, and informs global judgements at the end of terms and the end of each prevocational year.

The following are important points about EPAs in the prevocational context:

An EPA is a description of essential work. This contrasts with outcomes or capabilities, which describe characteristics of a prevocational doctor.

An EPA is not an assessment tool, but performance of an EPA can be assessed. Assessment of EPAs will include judgements about entrustability, that is, the level of supervision required for the doctor to perform this work saf

While PGY1 and PGY2 doctors will be assessed using the same EPAs, PGY2 doctors will be assessed to a higher level based on the complexity, responsibility, level of supervision and entrustability, as well as the context, of PGY doctors work.

Information about assessing EPAs is detailed in Prevocational assessment (Section 3 of Training and assessment requirements for prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) training programs).





Table 1 – Structure of the EPAs

DESCRIPTION
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Acknowledgements

These EPAs have been developed using the Royal Australasian College of Physician Basic Training Curriculum EPA structure and content, with permission. The EPAs are informed by material presented at Ins and Outs of Entrustable Professional Activities: An International Course of EPAs—Utretch. March 21-23, 2019. This course was directed by Professor Olle ten Cate PhD, with contributions from faculty: H. Carrie Chen, MD PhD; Reiner Ho, MD PhD; Claire Touchie, MD MPHE; and Josephine Boland, MSc EdD. The EPAs have been critically appraised by Associate Professor Claire Touchie, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa and Chief Medical Education O cer Medical Council of Canada. There has been extensive consultation with Australian stakeholders as drafts have been iterated, and feedback received has been considered and incorporated. The AMC is grateful to all for their willingness to contribute.

TITLE

Conduct a clinical assessment of a patient incorporating history, examination, and formulation of a di erential diagnosis and a management plan, including appropriate investigations (based on RACP s EPA 1).

FOCUS AND CONTEXT

This EPA applies in admission, reviewing a patient in response to a particular concern, ward-call tasks, ward rounds, lower acuity emergency department presentations, general practice consultations or outpatient clinical attendances.

Perform this activity in multiple settings, including inpatient and ambulatory (including community) care settings or in emergency departments and in the care of di erent populations (for example children, adults and the elderly).

DESCRIPTION

This activity requires the ability to, where appropriate or possible:

- 1. if the clinical assessment has been requested by a team member, clarify the concern(s) with them
- 2. identify relevant information in the patient record
- 3. obtain consent from the patient
- 4. obtain a history
- 5. examine the patient
- 6.

Patient management

Produces and implements an appropriate management plan.

Initiates appropriate, focused and basic investigations.

Safely performs common procedures where relevant.

Subpoints

Identi es patients preferences regarding management and assesses the role of families in decision-making.

Patient management

when appropriate.

Unable to produce a basic management plan.

Produces a management plan which does not address issues relevant to the patient.

Does not con rm management plan with supervisor

Communication

Communicates accurately and e ectively with the patient, carers and team members.

Subpoints

Clari es the task or problem with the team member/s.

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Whole-of-person care

Recognises and takes precautions where the patient may be vulnerable.

Incorporates psychosocial considerations and stage in illness journey into assessment, acknowledging these factors can in uence a patient s experience of illness and healthcare behaviours.

Whole-of-person care

Disregards the social history and the patient s goals of care/treatment in assessment and management.

Population health

and health surveillance into interactions with individual patients.

Population health

Incorporates disease prevention, health promotion Does not consider population-based risk factors. Does not take opportunities to discuss healthcare behaviours.

Cultural safety for all communities Is respectful of patients cultures and beliefs. Appropriately accesses interpretive or culturallyfocused services.

Identi es and considers culturally safe and appropriate means of obtaining patient histories and/or performing physical examination.

• Cultural safety for all communities

Does not take account of relevant cultural or religious beliefs and practices such as diet, burial practices or processes for decision-making.

Demonstrates an inadequate awareness of, or di culty accepting and understanding, the cultures of others.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health [Based on Ahpra de nition of cultural safety]

Demonstrates critical re ection of health practitioner knowledge, skills, attitudes, practising behaviours and power di erentials in delivering safe, accessible and responsive healthcare free of racism.

Acknowledges colonisation and systemic racism and the social, cultural, behavioural and economic factors that impact individual and community health.

Acknowledges and addresses individual racism, their own biases, assumptions, stereotypes and prejudices and provides care that is holistic, and free of bias and racism.

Recognises the impnburter

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra), National Scheme's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Cultural Safety Strategy 2020–2025, Ahpra website, 2021, accessed 22 April 2022.

EPA 1 Clinical assessment



Knowledge

Makes use of local service protocols and guidelines to inform clinical decision-making. Draws on medical literature to assist in clinical assessments, when required.

Demonstrates the ability to manage uncertainty in clinical decision-making.

Market Market

Demonstrates poorly formed approaches to identifying local service resources to support clinical decision-making.

Cannot implement strategies to respond to clinical ambiguity and uncertainty such as ensuring patients and team members are clear about what to do if things change.

Quality assurance

Performs hand hygiene and takes infection control precautions at appropriate moments.

Advocates for and actively participates in quality improvement activities including incident reporting.

Quality assurance

Demonstrates an undisciplined approach to hand hygiene and infection control.

Demonstrates a clear understanding of how colonisation impacts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes, and is able to map this to current evidence on systemic racism as a determinant of health and how racism maintains health inequity.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health (1) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

Does not yet demonstrate a clear understanding of how colonisation impacts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes, and is not yet able to map this to current evidence on systemic racism as a determinant of health and how racism maintains health inequity.

TITLE	Recognise, assess, escalate appropriately, and provide immediate management to deteriorating and acutely unwell patients. (This EPA recognises that PGY1 and PGY2 doctors are often called

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health (1) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health Demonstrates cultural safety in working alongside Does not yet demonstrate their ability to: follow Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples processes to routinely ask patients if they identify (patients and colleagues), and actively supports as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin; and include current Indigenous health cultural safety within the clinical environment, in evidence-based medicine, inclusive of social and the context of an acutely unwell patient. emotional wellbeing, within their practice, in the Demonstrates e ective, culturally safe context of an acutely unwell patient. interpersonal skills, empathetic communication, and respect, within an ethical framework inclusive Does not yet demonstrate e ective, culturally safe of holistic social and emotional wellbeing models interpersonal skills, empathetic communication, Practitioner to support equity in Aboriginal and Torres Strait and respect, within an ethical framework inclusive Islander peoples patient care in the context of an of holistic social and emotional wellbeing models acutely unwell patient. to support equity in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples patient care in the context of an acutely unwell patient. Professionalism Professionalism Demonstrates professional conduct. Has an incomplete understanding of their own limitations that may result in overestimation of Recognises their own limitations and seeks ability and dismissal of other health care team help when required in an appropriate way. member concerns, or delay in responding to or Subpoints asking for help for patients in need of urgent care. Displays lapses in professional conduct, such as Maintains patient privacy and con dentiality. acting disrespectfully or providing inaccurate or Displays respect and sensitivity towards patients. incomplete information. Maximises patient autonomy and supports patients decision-making. Demonstrates graded assertiveness. Teamwork Teamwork Professional and leader Works e ectively as a member of a team and uses Avoids playing a leading role in the management other team members, based on knowledge of their of patients. roles and skills, as required. Demonstrates inadequate teamwork. Self-education Seeks guidance and feedback from the health. acting disrespectfully or providing inacc]TJ O -169-1.745 Td ()Tj /Span<//ActualText<FEFFOOO9>>> BDC (

EPA 2 Recognition and care of the acutely unwell patient



Demonstrates an ability to advocate for health advancement alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (patients and colleagues), in the context of an acutely unwell patient.

[Based on Ahpra de nition of cultural safety]

Demonstrates critical re ection of health practitioner knowledge, skills, attitudes, practising behaviours and power di erentials in delivering safe, accessible and responsive healthcare free of racism.

Acknowledges colonisation and systemic racism, and the social, cultural, behavioural and economic factors that impact individual and community health.

Acknowledges and addresses individual racism, their own biases, assumptions, stereotypes and prejudices and provides care that is holistic and free of bias and racism.

Recognises the importance of self-determined decision-making, partnership and collaboration in healthcare which is driven by the individual, family and community.

Fosters a safe working environment through leadership to support the rights and dignity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and colleagues.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health (1) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

Requires further development of knowledge and skills to e ectively advocate for health advancement alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (patients and colleagues), in the context of an acutely unwell patient.

Health advocate DOMAIN 3



Scientist and scholar

Quality assurance

Complies with escalation protocols and maintains Demonstrates an undisciplined approach up-to-date certi cation in advanced life support appropriate to the level of training.

Performs hand hygiene and takes infection control precautions at appropriate moments.

Raises appropriate issues for review in quality assurance processes (such as at morbidity and mortality meetings).

Quality assurance

to hand hygiene and infection control.

Knowledge

Observes local service protocols and guidelines on acutely unwell patients. Market Market

Demonstrates poorly formed approaches to identifying local service resources to support clinical decision-making relating to acutely unwell patients.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health () Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

Demonstrates a clear understanding of how colonisation impacts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes, and is able to map this to current evidence on systemic racism as a determinant of health and how racism maintains health inequity in the context of an acutely unwell patient.

Does not yet demonstrate a clear understanding of how colonisation impacts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes, and is not yet able to map this to current evidence on systemic racism as a determinant of health and how racism maintains health inequity in the context of an acutely unwell patient.

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra), National Scheme's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Cultural Safety Strategy 2020–2025, Ahpra website, 2021, accessed 22 April 2022.

Prescribing

EPA 3



TITLE

Appropriately prescribe therapies (drugs, uids, blood products, inhalational therapies including oxygen) tailored to patients needs and conditions, either in response to a request by the treating team or self-initiated.

FOCUS AND CONTEXT

This EPA applies in any clinical context but the critical aspects are to:

- 1. prescribe autonomously when appropriate, taking account of registration, health service policies, and individual con dence and experience with that drug or product
- 2. prescribe as directed by a senior team member, taking responsibility for completion of the order to ensure it is both accurate and appropriate for the patient.

Perform this activity in multiple settings, including inpatient and ambulatory (including community) care settings or in emergency departments and in the care of di erent populations (for example children, adults and the elderly).

DESCRIPTION

This activity requires the ability to, as appropriate and where possible:

- 1. obtain and interpret medication histories
- 2. respond to requests from team members to prescribe medications
- 3. consider whether a prescription is appropriate
- 4. choose appropriate medications
- 5. where appropriate, clarify with the senior medical o cers, pharmacists, nursing sta, family members or clinical resources the drug, including name, dose, frequency and duration
- 6. actively consider drug drug interactions and/or allergies and if identi ed check whether to proceed
- 7. provide instruction on medication administration, e ects and adverse e ects using appropriate resources
- 8. elicit any patient concerns about bene ts and risks, and, as appropriate, seek advice and support to address those concerns
- 9. write or enter accurate and clear prescriptions or medication charts

10 monitor medications for e cacy, safety, adverse reactions and concordance

11.review medications and interactions, and cease medications where indicated, in consultation with senior team members, including a pharmacist.

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Professional

Clinical responsibility
 Reports adverse events related to medications.

Teamwork

Works collaboratively with the multidisciplinary team, including pharmacists and nursing sta.

Participates in medication safety meetings and morbidity and mortality meetings.

- Cultural safety for all communities Acknowledges and respects patients cultural and religious background, attitude and beliefs, and how these might in uence the acceptability of pharmacological and non-pharmacological management approaches.
- Population health Considers population-level constraints on prescribing, including: economic costs to community environmental cost to community antimicrobial resistance.
- ① Cultural safety for all communities

 Does not consider patients cultural and religious background, attitude and beliefs, and how these might in uence the acceptability of pharmacological and non-pharmacological management approaches.
- - economic costs to community environmental cost to community antimicrobial resistance.
- Demonstrates an ability to advocate for health advancement alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (patients and colleagues), in the context of prescribing.

[Based on Ahpra de nition of cultural safety]

Demonstrates critical re ection of health practitioner knowledge, skills, attitudes, practising behaviours and power di erentials in delivering safe, accessible and responsive healthcare free of racism.

Acknowledges colonisation and systemic racism, and the social, cultural, behavioural and economic factors that impact individual and community health.

Acknowledges and addresses individual racism, their own biases, assumptions, stereotypes and prejudices and provides care that is holistic, and free of bias and racism.

Recognises the importance of self-determined decision-making, partnership and collaboration in healthcare which is driven by the individual, family and community.

Fosters a safe working environment through leadership to support the rights and dignity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and colleagues.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
 Demonstrates an ability to advocate for health
 Requires further development of knowledge

and skills to e ectively advocate for health advancement alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (patients and colleagues) in the context of prescribing.

DOMAIN 3 Health advocate

8. Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra)

EPA 3 Prescribing



Knowledge

Demonstrates knowledge of clinical pharmacology, including adverse e ects and drug interactions, of the drugs they are prescribing

Makes use of local service protocols and guidelines to ensure decision-making is evidence-based and applies guidelines to individual patients appropriately.

Quality Assurance

Applies the principles of safe prescribing, particularly for drugs with a risk of signi cant adverse e ects, using evidence-based prescribing resources, as appropriate.

Prescribes in accordance with institutional policies, with institutional policies. including policies on antibiotic stewardship. Safely uses electronic prescribing systems as appropriate.

Subpoints

Applies information regarding side-e ects and monitoring requirements of medications. Identi es medication errors and institutes appropriate measures. Uses electronic prescribing systems safely.

Quality Assurance

Does not apply the principles of prescribing and/or consider the use of evidence-based prescribing resources.

Does not prescribes in accordance

Displays inadequate knowledge of the monitoring requirements or potential adverse e ects of the medications they are prescribing.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health (1) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

Demonstrates a clear understanding of how colonisation impacts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes, and is able to map this current evidence on systemic racism as a determinant of health and how racism maintains health inequity marginalisation in the context of prescribing.

Does not yet demonstrate a clear understanding of how colonisation impacts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes, and is not yet able to map this to current evidence on systemic racism as a determinant of health and how racism maintains health inequity in the context of prescribing.

Team communication documentation, handover and referrals

TITLE

Communicate about patient care, including accurate documentation and written and verbal information to facilitate high-quality care at transition points and referral.

FOCUS AND CONTEXT

This EPA applies in any clinical context but the critical aspects are to:

- 1. communicate timely, accurate and concise information to facilitate transfer of care across various health sector boundaries including:
 - at referral from ambulatory and community care
 - at admission

between clinical services and multidisciplinary teams

- at changes of shift
- at discharge to ambulatory and community care.
- 2. produce timely, accurate and concise documentation of episodes of clinical care.

Perform this activity in multiple settings, including inpatient and ambulatory (including community) care settings or in emergency departments and in the care of di erent populations (for example children, adults and the elderly).

DESCRIPTION

This activity requires the ability to:

1. communicate e ectively to:

facilitate high-quality care at any transition point ensure continuity of care

share patient information with other health care providers and multidisciplinary teams in conjunction with referral or the transfer of responsibility for patient care

use local agreed modes of information transfer, including oral, electronic and written formats to communicate (at least):

- » patient demographics
- » a concise medical history and relevant physical examination ndings
- » current problems and issues
- » details of relevant and pending investigation results
- » medical and multidisciplinary care plans
- » planned outcomes and indications for follow-up.
- 2. document e ectively to:

enable other health professionals to understand the issues and continue care produce written summaries of care, including admission and progress notes, team referrals, discharge summaries, and transfer documentation produce accurate records appropriate for secondary purposes complete accurate medical certi cates, death certi cates and cremation certi cates enable the appropriate use of clinical handover tools.

EPA 4 Team communication

BEHAVIOURS

Requires minimal supervision

I trust the prevocational doctor to complete the task; I need to be contactable / in the building and able to provide a general overview of work.

Requires direct supervision

I need to be there to observe the interactions and review the work.

Examples of behaviours of a prevocational doctor who can perform this activity with minimal supervision requires direct supervision to perform this activity.



Information management

Produces medical record entries that are timely, accurate, concise and understandable.

Documents and prioritises the most important issues for the patient.

Information management

Produces incomplete and/or inaccurate records that: omit clinically signi cant history, examination ndings, investigation results, clinical issues or management plans; and/or do not include identi cation details, entry date

and time, signature, printed name, designation or contact details.

Does not produce records or updates to documentation in a timeframe appropriate to the clinical situation.

Creates an unstructured medical record.

Makes illegible notes, or uses jargon and/or inappropriate acronyms.

Patient management

Displays understanding of the details of the patient sThe medical record lacks an overall impression or plan. condition, illness severity, comorbidities and potential emerging issues, summarising planned management including indications for follow-up.

Patient management

Subpoints

Uses a structured approach to documenting and prioritising patients issues.

Subpoints

Does not use an appropriate structure for the clinical context (for example, a traditional presenting problem history or systems-based structure).

Communication

Creates verbal or written summaries of informationCreates verbal or written summaries of information that are timely, accurate, appropriate, relevant and that are not timely, appropriate, relevant or understandable for patients, carers and/or other health professionals.

Communication

understandable for patients, carers and/or other health professionals.

Uses language that may be o ensive or distressing to patients or other health professionals. Does not mitigate the risks associated with

changing care teams or environments.

Inadequately summarises the active medical problems. Has an unstructured approach in transferring oral or written information.

Includes unnecessary or irrelevant information. Omits signi cant problems.

Inadequately clari es treatment changes and clinical reasoning.

Omits ongoing management plans, discharge medications, pending tests at discharge, or patient counselling.

Communicates in an inappropriate environment, such as handover in a public place.

Sub-points:

Accurately identi es key problems or issues.

Ensures a suitable environment and adequate time for handover.

Communicates clearly with patients, team members and other caregivers.

Con rms information has been received and understood, and seeks questions and feedback.

Practitioner

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Whole person care

Considers social/economic context, for example: factors transport issues and costs to patients into arrangements for transferring patients to other settings

appropriately prioritises social history and cultural factors.

Whole person care

Disregards social history or cultural factors and their management in transfer-of-care documentation.

- Cultural safety for all communities Includes relevant information regarding patients cultural or ethnic background in the handover and whether an interpreter is required.
- Cultural safety for all communities
 Demonstrates insensitivity or lack of awareness of relevant cultural issues, such as not specifying when an interpreter is required.

Uses language that may be o ensive or distressing to patients or other health professionals.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health ()

Demonstrates an ability to advocate for health advancement alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (patients and colleagues), including an understanding of what services are available and discussing with the patient/family/community to nd out their preferences around accessing these services.

[Based on Ahpra de nition of cultural safety]

Demonstrates critical re ection of health practitioner knowledge, skills, attitudes, practising behaviours and power di erentials in delivering safe, accessible and responsive healthcare free of racism.

Acknowledges colonisation and systemic racism, and the social, cultural, behavioural and economic factors which impact individual and community health.

Acknowledges and addresses individual racism, their own biases, assumptions, stereotypes and prejudices and provides care that is holistic, and free of bias and racism.

Recognises the importance of self-determined decision-making, partnership and collaboration in healthcare which is driven by the individual, family and community.

Fosters a safe working environment through leadership to support the rights and dignity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and colleagues.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
 Requires further development of knowledge

Requires further development of knowledge and skills to e ectively advocate for health advancement alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (patients and colleagues), including an understanding of what services are available and discussing with the patient/family/community to nd out their preferences around accessing these services.

DOMAIN 3 Health advocate

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra), National Scheme's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Cultural Safety Strategy 2020

–2025, Ahpra website, 2021, accessed 22 April 2022.

Quality Assurance

Maintains records to enable optimal patient care and secondary use of the document for relevant activities such as adequate coding, incident review, research or medico-legal proceedings.

Ensures all outstanding investigations, results or procedures will be followed up by receiving units and clinicians.

Subpoints

Provides and receives feedback to and from team members regarding handovers and any errors that occurred, including inaccurate information transmission.

Communicates accurately and in a timely fashion to ensure an e ective transition between settings, and continuity and quality of care.

Quality Assurance

Does not maintain records adequately.

Produces records lacking key information regarding episodes of care.

Uses ambiguous or inappropriate acronyms.

Performs incomplete handover.

Makes omissions and/or errors in transfer-of-care communications.

Does not complete transfer-of-care communications in a timely manner.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

Demonstrates a clear understanding of how colonisation impacts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes, and is able to map this to83 3Tf -

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