Syllabus

The CCT in
Intensive Care Medicine

Part III

The Faculty of
Intensive Care Medicine
Contents

1. Introduction ........................................................................................................................................... 6
   1.1 Assessment Tools Key ......................................................................................................................... 6
   1.2 Good Medical Practice ...................................................................................................................... 6
2. Curriculum competencies ......................................................................................................................... 7

Domain 1: Resuscitation and initial management of the acutely ill patient .................................................. 10
   Competencies ........................................................................................................................................... 10
   Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 10
   1.1 Adopts a structured and timely approach to the recognition, assessment and stabilisation
        of the acutely ill patient with disordered physiology ........................................................................... 11
   1.2 Manages cardiopulmonary resuscitation – ALS recommended ....................................................... 12
   1.3 Manages the patient post-resuscitation ............................................................................................. 13
   1.4 Triages and prioritises patients appropriately, including timely admission to ICU ......................... 13
   1.5 Assesses and provides initial management of the trauma patient .................................................... 14
   1.6 Assesses and provides initial management of the patient with burns ............................................. 15
   1.7 Describes the management of mass casualties ................................................................................... 16

Domain 2: Diagnosis, Assessment, Investigation, Monitoring and Data Interpretation ................................ 17
   Competencies ........................................................................................................................................... 17
   Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 18
   2.1 Obtains a history and performs an accurate clinical examination ...................................................... 18
   2.2 Undertakes timely and appropriate investigations ............................................................................ 18
   2.3 Performs electrocardiography (ECG / EKG) and interprets the results ............................................ 19
   2.4 Obtains appropriate microbiological samples and interprets results .............................................. 19
   2.5 Obtains and interprets the results from blood gas samples ............................................................... 20
   2.6 Interprets imaging studies .................................................................................................................. 20
   2.7 Monitors and responds to trends in physiological variables ............................................................ 21
   2.8 Integrates clinical findings with laboratory investigations to form a differential diagnosis .......... 22

Domain 3: Disease Management ................................................................................................................ 23
   Competencies ........................................................................................................................................... 23
   Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 24
   Acute Disease ......................................................................................................................................... 24
   3.1 Manages the care of the critically ill patient with specific acute medical conditions ...................... 24
   Chronic Disease ....................................................................................................................................... 25
   3.2 Identifies the implications of chronic and co-morbid disease in the acutely ill patient ................. 25
   Organ System Failure .............................................................................................................................. 26
   3.3 Recognises and manages the patient with circulatory failure ......................................................... 26
   3.4 Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute renal failure .................................... 27
   3.5 Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute liver failure .................................... 27
   3.6 Recognises and manages the patient with neurological impairment .............................................. 28
   3.7 Recognises and manages the patient with acute gastrointestinal failure ....................................... 29
   3.8 Recognises and manages the patient with acute lung injury syndromes (ALI / ARDS) ................... 30
   3.9 Recognises and manages the septic patient .................................................................................... 30
   3.10 Recognises and manages the patient following intoxication with drugs or environmental toxins .................................................................................................................. 31
   3.11 Recognises life-threatening maternal peripartum complications and manages care under
        supervision ............................................................................................................................................ 32

Domain 4: Therapeutic interventions / Organ support in single or multiple organ failure ......................... 33
   Competencies ........................................................................................................................................... 33
   Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 33
   4.1 Prescribes drugs and therapies safely ............................................................................................... 34
   4.2 Manages antimicrobial drug therapy ............................................................................................... 36
4.3 Administers blood and blood products safely .......................................................... 37
4.4 Uses fluids and vasoactive/inotropic drugs to support the circulation .................. 37
4.5 Describes the use of mechanical assist devices to support the circulation ............... 38
4.6 Initiates, manages, and weans patients from invasive and non-invasive ventilatory support ....... 38
4.7 Initiates, manages, and weans patients from renal replacement therapy ................. 39
4.8 Recognises and manages electrolyte, glucose and acid-base disturbances ............... 40
4.9 Co-ordinates and provides nutritional assessment and support ................................ 40

Domain 5: **Practical procedures** .................................................................................. 42

Competencies .................................................................................................................. 42
Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ........................................... 43

**Respiratory System** .................................................................................................. 43
5.1 Administers oxygen using a variety of administration devices .................................. 43
5.2 Performs emergency airway management .................................................................. 44
5.3 Performs difficult and failed airway management according to local protocols ........... 45
5.4 Performs endotracheal suction .................................................................................. 45
5.5 Performs fibreoptic bronchoscopy and BAL in the intubated patient .......................... 45
5.6 Performs percutaneous tracheostomy ....................................................................... 45
5.7 Performs chest drain insertion ................................................................................... 46

**Cardiovascular System** ............................................................................................ 46
5.8 Performs arterial catheterisation ............................................................................... 46
5.9 Describes ultrasound techniques for vascular localisation ........................................ 46
5.10 Performs central venous catheterisation ................................................................. 46
5.11 Performs defibrillation and cardioversion ................................................................ 47
5.12 Performs transthoracic cardiac pacing, describes transvenous .................................. 47
5.13 Describes how to perform pericardiocentesis .......................................................... 47
5.14 Demonstrates a method for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables .... 47

**Central Nervous System** ........................................................................................... 48
5.15 Performs lumbar puncture (intradural/‘spinal’) under supervision .............................. 48
5.16 Manages the administration of analgesia via an epidural catheter ............................. 48

**Gastrointestinal System** ............................................................................................ 48
5.17 Performs abdominal paracentesis .......................................................................... 48
5.18 Describes Sengstaken tube (or equivalent) placement .............................................. 48
5.19 Performs nasogastric tube placement ..................................................................... 49

**Genitourinary System** ............................................................................................... 49
5.20 Performs urinary catheterisation .............................................................................. 49

Domain 6: **Perioperative care** ....................................................................................... 50

Competencies .................................................................................................................. 50
Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all sections .................................................... 50
6.1 Manages the pre- and post-operative care of the high risk surgical patient ............... 51
6.2 Manages the care of the patient following cardiac surgery under supervision ........... 52
6.3 Manages the care of the patient following craniotomy under supervision ................. 53
6.4 Manages the care of the patient following solid organ transplant under supervision .... 54

Domain 7: **Comfort and recovery** ................................................................................. 57

Competencies .................................................................................................................. 57
Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ............................................. 57
7.1 Identifies and attempts to minimise the physical and psychosocial consequences of critical illness for patients and families ........................................................................... 58
7.2 Manages the assessment, prevention and treatment of pain and delirium .................... 59
7.3 Manages sedation and neuromuscular blockade ......................................................... 59
7.4 Communicates the continuing care requirements, including rehabilitation, of patients at ICU discharge to health care professionals, patients and relatives ................................. 60
7.5 Manages the safe and timely discharge of patients from the ICU ................................ 61

Domain 8: **End of life care** ............................................................................................ 62

Competencies .................................................................................................................. 62

III - 3
Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 62
8.1 Manages the process of withholding or withdrawing treatment with the multi-
disciplinary team ................................................................................................................................. 63
8.2 Discusses end of life care with patients and their families / surrogates ........................................ 63
8.3 Manages palliative care of the critically ill patient ........................................................................ 64
8.4 Performs brain-stem death testing ................................................................................................. 64
8.5 Manages the physiological support of the organ donor .................................................................. 65
8.6 Manages donation following cardiac death ..................................................................................... 65

Domain 9: Paediatric care ........................................................................................................................ 66

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 66
9.1 Describes the recognition of the acutely ill child and initial management of
paediatric emergencies ......................................................................................................................... 66
9.2 Describes the national legislation and guidelines relating to child protection and
their relevance to critical care .............................................................................................................. 67

Domain 10: Transport ................................................................................................................................ 68

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 68
10.1 Undertakes the transport of the mechanically ventilated critically ill patient outside the ICU .... 68

Domain 11: Patient safety and health systems management .................................................................... 70

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 70
11.1 Leads a daily multidisciplinary ward round .................................................................................... 72
11.2 Complies with local infection control measures ........................................................................... 72
11.3 Identifies environmental hazards and promotes safety for patients and staff ............................... 72
11.4 Identifies and minimises risk of critical incidents and adverse events, including
complications of critical illness ........................................................................................................... 73
11.5 Organises a case conference ........................................................................................................ 74
11.6 Critically appraises and applies guidelines, protocols and care bundles ..................................... 74
11.7 Describes commonly used scoring systems for assessment of severity of illness,
case mix and workload ....................................................................................................................... 75
11.8 Demonstrates an understanding of the managerial and administrative responsibilities
of the ICM specialist .......................................................................................................................... 75

Domain 12: Professionalism ...................................................................................................................... 77

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies ................................................................. 77
Communication .................................................................................................................................. 79
12.1 Communicates effectively with patients and relatives .................................................................... 79
12.2 Communicates effectively with members of the health care team ............................................. 79
12.3 Maintains accurate and legible records / documentation ............................................................... 79
Professional relationships with patients and relatives ......................................................................... 80
12.4 Involves patients (or their surrogates if applicable) in decisions about care and treatment .... 80
12.5 Demonstrates respect of cultural and religious beliefs and an awareness of their impact
on decision making ............................................................................................................................... 80
12.6 Respects privacy, dignity, confidentiality and legal constraints on the use of patient data ....... 80
Professional relationships with members of the healthcare team ...................................................... 80
12.7 Collaborates and consults; promotes team-working ..................................................................... 80
12.8 Ensures continuity of care through effective hand-over of clinical information ....................... 80
12.9 Supports clinical staff outside the ICU to enable the delivery of effective care ....................... 80
12.10 Appropriately supervises, and delegates to others, the delivery of patient care ................. 80
Self governance ................................................................................................................................... 80
12.11 Takes responsibility for safe patient care .................................................................................... 80
12.12 Formulates clinical decisions with respect for ethical and legal principles ............................ 80
12.13 Seeks learning opportunities and integrates new knowledge into clinical practice ............ 80
12.14 Participates in multidisciplinary teaching ................................................................. 80
12.15 Participates in quality improvement under supervision .............................................. 80

Basic Sciences ...................................................................................................................... 82
Anatomy ................................................................................................................................. 82
Physiology & Biochemistry ................................................................................................. 83
Pharmacology ......................................................................................................................... 84
Physics & Clinical Measurement .......................................................................................... 86
1. **Introduction**

The development of the syllabus for the CCT in ICM has drawn unashamedly and gratefully on the CoBaTrICE syllabus developed under the auspices of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine. It is central to the development of the CCT Curriculum that it should be a valid and accepted qualification for the professional practice of Intensive Care Medicine throughout Europe.

This syllabus is the aggregate of all the knowledge, skills, behaviours and attitudes required for each of the required ICM CCT competencies. It is divided into 13 sections: 12 domains plus Basic Sciences. This format inevitably results in some repetition with the same topic appearing in more than one domain and linked to multiple competencies. Similarly there is some cross-over between the knowledge and Basic Sciences, and knowledge and skills lists.

This syllabus can be used by trainees and trainers to aid reflective learning, formal teaching and to guide some aspects of assessment. It could also be modified to audit the content of training received in different centres. The syllabus is presented in tables to allow trainees to track the progression of their learning. It is not intended that these tables be used as checklists for the assessment of competence. No trainee can be expected to have a comprehensive knowledge of every single aspect of the syllabus.

A full description of the CoBaTrICE methodology can be found in section 1.5.1 of Part I of this curriculum.

1.1 **Assessment Tools Key**

Each competence is mapped to the relevant assessment tools as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Tools</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Full name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct Observation of procedural Skills</td>
<td>DOPS</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICM Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise</td>
<td>ICM-CEX</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Based Discussion</td>
<td>CBD</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisource Feedback</td>
<td>MSF</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute Care Assessment Tool</td>
<td>ACAT</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simulation</td>
<td></td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination</td>
<td></td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All competencies annotated with the letter ‘E’ can be examined in any of the components of the FFICM Final examination identified in the examination blueprint in Part II of this curriculum

1.2 **Good Medical Practice**

Each competence is also mapped to the four domains of Good Medical Practice:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domains of Good Medical Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Curriculum competencies

Listed below are the competencies for the *CCT in Intensive Care Medicine*, compiled for ease of reference. Each competency, along with its corresponding GMP and assessment method mapping, is also listed later in this manual within its relevant Syllabus domain. Full GMP and assessment mapping can also be found in *Part II: Assessment System*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain 1: Resuscitation and management of the acutely ill patient</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Adopteds a structured and timely approach to the recognition, assessment and stabilisation of the acutely ill patient with disordered physiology</td>
<td>I, C, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Manages cardiopulmonary resuscitation - ALS recommended</td>
<td>I, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Manages the patient post resuscitation</td>
<td>I, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Triages and prioritises patients appropriately, including timely admission to ICU</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Assesses and provides initial management of the trauma patient</td>
<td>D, I, M, T, C, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 Assesses and provides initial management of the patient with burns</td>
<td>D, I, M, T, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 Describes the management of mass casualties</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain 2: Diagnosis, Assessment, Investigation, Monitoring and Data Interpretation</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Obtains a history and performs an accurate clinical examination</td>
<td>I, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Undertakes timely and appropriate investigations</td>
<td>I, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Performs electrocardiography (ECG / EKG) and interprets the results</td>
<td>D, I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Obtains appropriate microbiological samples and interprets results</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Obtains and interprets the results from blood gas samples</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Interprets imaging studies</td>
<td>I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 Monitors and responds to trends in physiological variables</td>
<td>I, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Integrates clinical findings with laboratory investigations to form a differential diagnosis</td>
<td>I, C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain 3: Disease Management</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acute Disease</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Manages the care of the critically ill patient with specific acute medical conditions</td>
<td>D, I, C, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chronic Disease</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Identifies the implications of chronic and co-morbid disease in the acutely ill patient</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organ System Failure</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Recognises and manages the patient with circulatory failure</td>
<td>I, C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute renal failure</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute liver failure</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 Recognises and manages the patient with neurological impairment</td>
<td>I, C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7 Recognises and manages the patient with acute gastrointestinal failure</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8 Recognises and manages the patient with severe acute respiratory failure/acute lung injury syndromes (ALI/ARDS)</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.9 Recognises and manages the septic patient</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.10 Recognises and manages the patient following intoxication with drugs or environmental toxins</td>
<td>I, C, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.11 Recognises life-threatening maternal peripartum complications and manages care</td>
<td>I, C, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain 4: Therapeutic interventions / Organ support in single or multiple organ failure</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Prescribes drugs and therapies safely</td>
<td>D, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Manages antimicrobial drug therapy</td>
<td>I, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Administers blood and blood products safely</td>
<td>D, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 Uses fluids and vasoactive / inotropic drugs to support the circulation</td>
<td>I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 Describes the use of mechanical assist devices to support the circulation</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6 Initiates, manages, and weans patients from invasive and non-invasive ventilatory support</td>
<td>D, I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7 Initiates, manages and weans patients from renal replacement therapy</td>
<td>D, I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Domain 5: Practical procedures

#### Respiratory System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Administers oxygen using a variety of administration devices</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Performs emergency airway management</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Performs difficult and failed airway management according to local protocols</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4 Performs endotracheal suction</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 Performs fibreoptic bronchoscopy and BAL in the intubated patient</td>
<td>D, M, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6 Performs percutaneous tracheostomy</td>
<td>D, M, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7 Performs chest drain insertion</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Cardiovascular System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.8 Performs arterial catheterisation</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9 Performs ultrasound techniques for vascular localisation</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.10 Performs central venous catheterisation</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.11 Performs defibrillation and cardioversion</td>
<td>D, C, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.12 Performs transthoracic cardiac pacing, describes transvenous</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.13 Describes how to perform pericardiocentesis</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.14 Demonstrates a method for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Central Nervous System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.15 Performs lumbar puncture (intradural / 'spinal') under supervision</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.16 Manages the administration of analgesia via an epidural catheter</td>
<td>I, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Gastrointestinal System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.17 Performs abdominal paracentesis</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.18 Describes Sengstaken tube (or equivalent) placement</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.19 Performs nasogastric tube placement</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Genitourinary System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.20 Performs urinary catheterisation</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Domain 6: Perioperative care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1 Manages the pre- and post-operative care of the high risk surgical patient</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 Manages the care of the patient following cardiac surgery</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3 Manages the care of the patient following craniotomy</td>
<td>C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4 Manages the care of the patient following solid organ transplantation</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5 Manages the pre- and post-operative care of the trauma patient under supervision</td>
<td>C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Domain 7: Comfort and recovery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.1 Identifies and attempts to minimise the physical and psychosocial consequences of critical illness for patients and families</td>
<td>M, C, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2 Manages the assessment, prevention and treatment of pain and delirium</td>
<td>D, I, C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.3 Manages sedation and neuromuscular blockade</td>
<td>D, I, C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.4 Communicates the continuing care requirements of patients, including rehabilitation, at ICU discharge to health care professionals, patients and relatives</td>
<td>M, T, S, E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5 Manages the safe and timely discharge of patients from the ICU</td>
<td>M, T, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Domain 8: End of life care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1 Manages the process of withholding or withdrawing treatment with the multidisciplinary team</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>1, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2 Discusses end of life care with patients and their families / surrogates</td>
<td>C, M, D, E</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3 Manages palliative care of the critically ill patient</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.4 Performs brain-stem death testing</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5 Manages the physiological support of the organ donor</td>
<td>I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.6 Manages donation following cardiac death</td>
<td>C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Domain 9: Paediatric care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.1 Describes the recognition of the acutely ill child and initial management of paediatric care</td>
<td>I, C, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
emergencies

| 9.2 | Describes national legislation and guidelines relating to child protection and their relevance to critical care | C, E | 1 |

**Domain 10: Transport**

| 10.1 | Undertakes transport of the mechanically ventilated critically ill patient outside the ICU | D, I, C, M | 1, 3 |

**Domain 11: Patient safety and health systems management**

| 11.1 | Leads a daily multidisciplinary ward round | M | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| 11.2 | Complies with local infection control measures | C, M, E | 2 |
| 11.3 | Identifies environmental hazards and promotes safety for patients & staff | C, M, E | 2 |
| 11.4 | Identifies and minimises risk of critical incidents and adverse events, including complications of critical illness | C, M, E | 2 |
| 11.5 | Organises a case conference | C, M, E | 3 |
| 11.6 | Critically appraises and applies guidelines, protocols and care bundles | C, E | 1 |
| 11.7 | Describes commonly used scoring systems for assessment of severity of illness, case mix and workload | C, E | 1 |
| 11.8 | Demonstrates an understanding of the managerial & administrative responsibilities of the ICM specialist | C, M, E | 1, 3 |

**Domain 12: Professionalism**

| 12.1 | Communicates effectively with patients and relatives | D, M, T, S, E | 3 |
| 12.2 | Communicates effectively with members of the health care team | D, M, S, E | 3 |
| 12.3 | Maintains accurate and legible records / documentation | D, M, T, E | 1 |

**Communication**

| 12.4 | Involves patients (or their surrogates if applicable) in decisions about care and treatment | C, M, T, E | 3, 4 |
| 12.5 | Demonstrates respect of cultural and religious beliefs and an awareness of their impact on decision making | C, M, T, E | 3, 4 |
| 12.6 | Respects privacy, dignity, confidentiality and legal constraints on the use of patient data | C, M, E | 1, 4 |

**Professional Relationships with patients and relatives**

| 12.7 | Collaborates and consults; promotes team-working | M, E | 3 |
| 12.8 | Ensures continuity of care through effective hand-over of clinical information | C, M, T, S, E | 1 |
| 12.9 | Supports clinical staff outside the ICU to enable the delivery of effective care | C, M, T, E | 1 |
| 12.10 | Appropriately supervises, and delegates to others, the delivery of patient care | C, M, T, E | 1 |

**Professional Relationships with members of the healthcare team**

| 12.11 | Takes responsibility for safe patient care | D, C, M, T, E | 1, 3 |
| 12.12 | Formulates clinical decisions with respect for ethical and legal principles | C, M, T, E | 1 |
| 12.13 | Seeks learning opportunities and integrates new knowledge into clinical practice | M, E | 1 |
| 12.14 | Participates in multidisciplinary teaching | M, E | 1 |
| 12.15 | Participates in quality improvement under supervision | M, E | 1, 4 |
Domain 1: Resuscitation and initial management of the acutely ill patient

General Principles

The point of first contact with an acutely ill, deteriorating, or collapsed patient requires clinicians to take action to prevent or correct physiological deterioration despite uncertainty about causation and the precise underlying diagnosis in acutely ill patients. Meeting this challenge – action in uncertainty – demands a structured approach to patient management, as exemplified by the resuscitation algorithms. Although less well developed for the acutely ill patient, they are of equal importance.

A wide outline knowledge is expected even at an early stage of training

Features of competent performance may include:

- Recognition of presenting signs and symptoms
- Identification and rapid response to life-threatening complications
- Planning and prioritisation of investigations and monitoring – appropriate; timely
- Appropriate differential diagnosis
- Clear decision making and immediate management strategies (including application of relevant protocols / guidelines / care bundles)
- Effective team working and leadership – clear communication and instructions
- Appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)
- Attention to patient safety

Domain 1: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Adopts a structured and timely approach to the recognition, assessment and stabilisation of the acutely ill patient with disordered physiology</td>
<td>I, C, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Manages cardiopulmonary resuscitation</td>
<td>I, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Manages the patient post resuscitation</td>
<td>I, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Triage and prioritise patients appropriately, including timely admission to ICU</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Assesses and provides initial management of the trauma patient</td>
<td>D, I, M, T, C, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Assesses and provides initial management of the patient with burns</td>
<td>D, I, M, T, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Describes the management of mass casualties</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 1: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recognises</td>
<td>the importance of ensuring physiological safety as a primary aim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises</td>
<td>the importance of timely institution of organ-system support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recognises the need for supportive care for all organ systems whether failing / injured or not

**Skills**

- Recognise and manage emergencies; seek assistance appropriately
- Order and prioritise appropriate investigations
- Professional and reassuring approach - generates confidence and trust in patients and their relatives
- Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role
- Clear explanations given to patient, relatives and staff
- Consults and takes into account the views of referring clinicians; promotes their participation in decision making where appropriate

**Attitudes**

- Patient safety is paramount
- Rapid response and resuscitation
- Determination to provide best and most appropriate care possible regardless of environment
- Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)

### 1.1 Adopts a structured and timely approach to the recognition, assessment and stabilisation of the acutely ill patient with disordered physiology

#### Knowledge

- Early warning signs of impending critical illness
- Causes of cardio-respiratory arrest, identification of patients at risk and corrective treatment of reversible causes
- Clinical signs associated with critical illness, their relative importance and interpretation
- Clinical severity of illness and indications when organ dysfunctions or failure are an immediate threat to life

**Causes, recognition and management of:**

- Acute chest pain
- Tachypnoea and dyspnoea
- Upper and lower airway obstruction
- Pulmonary oedema
- Pneumothorax (simple and tension)
- Hypoxaemia
- Hypotension
- Shock states
- Anaphylactic and anaphylactoid reactions
- Hypertensive emergencies
- Acute confusional states and altered consciousness
- Acute seizures / convulsions
- Oliguria and anuria
- Acute disturbances in thermoregulation

**Treatment algorithms for common medical emergencies**

**Immediate management of acute coronary syndromes**

**Peri-arrest arrhythmias and the principles of their management (bradycardia, broad complex tachycardia, atrial fibrillation, narrow complex tachycardia)**

**Methods for securing vascular access rapidly**

**Surface anatomy: structures in the antecubital fossa; large veins and anterior triangle of the neck; large veins of the leg and femoral triangle**

**Techniques for effective fluid resuscitation**

**Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3)**

**Indications for, and methods of, ventilatory support**

**Indications for not starting resuscitation or ceasing an initiated attempt**

**Relevance of prior health status in determining risk of critical illness and outcomes**

**Measures of adequacy of tissue oxygenation, e.g. base deficit, lactate, central venous saturation**

**Treatment strategies for abnormalities of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose balance**

**Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU – factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))**

#### Skills

- Considers legal and ethical issues: patient autonomy, appropriateness of resuscitation and ICU admission.
Conduct a primary survey: obtain relevant information rapidly and accurately
Assess conscious level, status of airway and cervical spine, and conduct careful systems review
Monitor vital physiological functions as indicated
Recognise and rapidly respond to adverse trends in monitored parameters
Recognise and manage choking / obstructed airway
Implement emergency airway management and ventilation
Demonstrate emergency relief of tension pneumothorax
Assess, predict and manage circulatory shock
Obtain vascular access sufficient to manage acute haemorrhage, rapid fluid infusion and monitor cardiovascular variables
Initiate emergency external cardiac pacing
Respond to an emergency in a positive, organised and effective manner.
Participate in timely discussion and regular review of ‘do not attempt resuscitation’ orders and treatment limitation decisions
Perform a comprehensive secondary survey; integrate history with clinical examination to form a differential diagnosis.
Evaluate evidence for diagnoses already made and search for other diagnoses.
Prescribe appropriate analgesia
Examine and plan care for the confused patient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.2 Manages cardiopulmonary resuscitation – ALS recommended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of cardio-respiratory arrest, identification of patients at risk and corrective treatment of reversible causes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods for securing vascular access rapidly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes and recognition of acute airway obstruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiopulmonary resuscitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The modification of resuscitation techniques in the special circumstances of hypothermia, immersion and submersion, poisoning, pregnancy, electrocution, anaphylaxis, acute severe asthma and trauma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risks to the rescuer during resuscitation and methods to minimise these</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment (algorithm) of patients in ventricular fibrillation (VF) and pulseless ventricular tachycardia (VT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment (algorithm) of patients with non-VF rhythms (asystole / PEA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracheal route for drug administration: indications, contraindications, dosage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications, dosages and actions of drugs used in the peri-arrest period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defibrillation: principles of monophasic and biphasic defibrillators; mechanism, indications, complications, modes and methods (manual and automated external defibrillators (AED))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications and methods of cardiac pacing in the peri-arrest setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of cardiorespiratory arrest on body systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit of outcome after cardiac arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for not starting resuscitation or ceasing an initiated attempt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and ethical issues relating to the use of the recently dead for practical skills training, research and organ donation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skills</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider legal and ethical issues: patient autonomy, appropriateness of resuscitation and ICU admission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct a primary survey: obtain relevant information rapidly and accurately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor vital physiological functions as indicated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check and assemble resuscitation equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate advanced life support skills (ALS standard or equivalent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise and manage choking / obstructed airway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implement emergency airway management and ventilation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Act appropriately as a member or leader of the team (according to skills and experience)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respond to an emergency in a positive, organised and effective manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in timely discussion and regular review of ‘do not attempt resuscitation’ orders and treatment limitation decisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect a potentially unstable cervical spine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 1.3 Manages the patient post-resuscitation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Causes of cardio-respiratory arrest, identification of patients at risk and corrective treatment of reversible causes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Causes, recognition and management of:
- Upper and lower airway obstruction
- Tachypnoea and dyspnoea
- Hypoaxemia
- Pneumothorax (simple and tension)
- Acute chest pain
- Pulmonary oedema
- Hypotension
- Shock states
- Anaphylactic and anaphylactoid reactions
- Hypertensive emergencies
- Acute confusional states and altered consciousness
- Acute seizures / convulsions
- Oliguria and anuria
- Acute disturbances in thermoregulation

Peri-arrest arrhythmias and the principles of their management (bradycardia, broad complex tachycardia, atrial fibrillation, narrow complex tachycardia)

**Techniques for effective fluid resuscitation**

**Indications for and methods of ventilatory support**

**Indications and methods of cardiac pacing in the peri-arrest setting**

**Effect of cardio-respiratory arrest on body systems**

**Principles and application of therapeutic hypothermia**

**Measures of adequacy of tissue oxygenation, e.g. base deficit, lactate, central venous saturation**

**Treatment strategies for abnormalities of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose balance**

**Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))**


### 1.4 Triages and prioritises patients appropriately, including timely admission to ICU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early warning signs of impending critical illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of cardio-respiratory arrest, identification of patients at risk and corrective treatment of reversible causes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical signs associated with critical illness, their relative importance and interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical severity of illness and indications when organ dysfunctions or failure are an immediate threat to life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for not starting resuscitation or ceasing an initiated attempt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevance of prior health status in determining risk of critical illness and outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triage and management of competing priorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Skills

Consider legal and ethical issues: patient autonomy, appropriateness of resuscitation and ICU admission.

Conduct a primary survey: obtain relevant information rapidly and accurately.

Assess conscious level, status of airway and cervical spine, and conduct careful systems review.

Recognise and rapidly respond to adverse trends in monitored parameters.

Respond to an emergency in a positive, organised and effective manner.

Participate in timely discussion and regular review of ‘do not attempt resuscitation’ orders and treatment limitation decisions.

Consider legal and ethical issues: patient autonomy, appropriateness of resuscitation and ICU admission.

Assess and communicate effectively the risks and benefits of intensive care admission.

Take decisions to admit, discharge or transfer patients.

Explain life-sustaining therapies, in clear language, and describe the expected outcome of such therapies in view of the patient’s goals and wishes.

Discuss treatment options with a patient or relatives before ICU admission.

Determine when the patient's needs exceed local resources or specialist expertise (requirement for transfer).

---

### 1.5 Assesses and provides initial management of the trauma patient

#### Knowledge

Performance and interpretation of a primary and secondary survey.

Environmental hazards and injuries: hypo- and hyperthermia, near-drowning, electrocution, radiations, chemical injuries, electrical safety/micro shock.

Effects and acute complications of severe trauma on organs and organ systems:
- **Respiratory** – thoracic trauma; acute lung injury; tension pneumothorax.
- **Cardiovascular** – hypovolaemic shock; cardiac tamponade.
- **Renal** – acute renal failure; rhabdomyolysis.
- **Neurological** – altered consciousness; traumatic brain injury; post-anoxic brain injury; coup and contra-coup injuries; extra-dural and sub-dural haematomas; intracranial haemorrhage and infarction; spinal cord injury.
- **Gastrointestinal** – abdominal trauma; abdominal tamponade; rupture of liver or spleen.
- **Musculoskeletal system** – soft tissue injury; short term complications of fractures; fat embolism; crush injury and compartment syndromes; maxillofacial injuries.

Relevance of mechanism of injury to clinical presentation.

Secondary insults that potentiate the primary injury.

Immediate specific treatment of life-threatening injury.

Methods for securing vascular access rapidly.

Surface anatomy: structures in the antecubital fossa; large veins and anterior triangle of the neck; large veins of the leg and femoral triangle.

Intraosseous cannulation.

Causes, recognition and management of shock states.

Techniques for effective fluid resuscitation.

Principles of blood and blood component therapy; principles of massive transfusion, including sell salvage.

Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3).

Indications for and methods of ventilatory support.

Triage and management of competing priorities.

Management of cervical spine injuries.

Principles of management of closed head injury; coup and contra-coup injuries; methods of preventing 'secondary insult' to the brain; recognition and immediate management of raised intracranial pressure.

Management of severe acute haemorrhage and blood transfusion; correction of coagulation disorders.

Methods for assessing neurological function e.g. Glasgow Coma Scale.

Principles, including indications, limitations and therapeutic modalities of:
- Basic radiological methods, CT scanning, ultrasound, MRI, ultrasound, angiography and radionucleotide studies) in the critically ill patient.

Indications for and basic interpretation of chest radiographs: range of normal features on a chest x-ray; collapse, consolidation, infiltrates (including ALI/ARDS), pneumothorax, pleural effusion, pericardial effusion, position of cannulae, tubes or foreign bodies, airway compression, cardiac silhouette, mediastinal masses.

Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome.
### Skills
- Conduct a primary survey: obtain relevant information rapidly and accurately
- Assess and document Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)
- Observe and monitor cardiovascular variables
- Implement emergency airway management and ventilation
- Perform a comprehensive secondary survey; integrate history with clinical examination to form a differential diagnosis.
- Review and refine diagnosis according to new information and the patient’s response to treatment.
- Assess conscious level, status of airway and cervical spine, and conduct a careful systems review.
- Assess, predict and manage circulatory shock
- Monitor vital physiological functions as indicated
- Demonstrate emergency relief of tension pneumothorax
- Prescribe appropriate analgesia
- Prioritise the order of investigations and interventions for individual injuries according to their threat to life
- Protect a potentially unstable cervical spine
- Determine when the patient’s needs exceed local resources or specialist expertise (requirement for transfer)

### 1.6 Assesses and provides initial management of the patient with burns

#### Knowledge
- Triage and management of competing priorities
- Performance and interpretation of a primary and secondary survey
- Environmental hazards and injuries: hypo- and hyperthermia, near-drowning, electrocution, radiations, chemical injuries, electrical safety/micro shock
- Relevance of mechanism of injury to clinical presentation
- Pathophysiology and medical/surgical management of the phases of a burn injury
- Calculation of area burned
- Principles of calculation of fluid losses and fluid resuscitation in the burned patient
- Treatment strategies for abnormalities of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose balance
- Causes, recognition and management of shock states
- Methods for securing vascular access rapidly
- Surface anatomy: structures in the antecubital fossa; large veins and anterior triangle of the neck; large veins of the leg and femoral triangle
- Techniques for effective fluid resuscitation
- Causes and recognition of acute airway obstruction
- Indications for and methods of ventilatory support
- Recognition and management of acute disturbances in thermoregulation
- Signs, symptoms and causes of renal failure including acute kidney injury / chronic / acute on chronic and indications for intervention
- Respiratory complications of burn injuries (smoke inhalation, airway burns) - detection and management
- Management of difficult or failed airway management (see 5.4)
- The environmental control necessary for optimal care of the burned patient
- Prevention of infection in the burned patient
- Burn-related compartment syndrome and escharotomy
- Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome

#### Skills
- Conduct a primary survey: obtain relevant information rapidly and accurately
- Assess conscious level, status of airway and cervical spine, and conduct a careful systems review
- Monitor vital physiological functions as indicated
- Implement emergency airway management and ventilation
- Obtain vascular access sufficient to manage acute haemorrhage, rapid fluid infusion and monitor cardiovascular variables
- Assess, predict and manage circulatory shock
- Prescribe appropriate analgesia
- Assess burn severity and prescribe initial fluid resuscitation
- Describe the endpoints of burn resuscitation and preferred fluids
- Recognise the potential for airway compromise in the burned patient
- Identification and management of carbon monoxide poisoning
Estimate burn wound mortality from published data tables
Determine when the patient's needs exceed local resources or specialist expertise (requirement for transfer)
Provide specialist advice before transfer to specialist cardiac or neuro ICU

### 1.7 Describes the management of mass casualties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organisational principles for the coordination and management of mass casualties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local major incident plan - the role of the ICU in hospital/community disaster plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication tasks and personal role in major incident / accident plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triage and management of competing priorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triage methods in use locally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characteristics and clinical presentations associated with major incidents caused by natural or civilian disasters, infection, epidemics or terrorist attack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevance of mechanism of injury to clinical presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental hazards and injuries: hypo- and hyperthermia, near-drowning, electrocution, radiations, chemical injuries, electrical safety/micro shock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological support for patients and relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decontamination procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of public relations and information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative forms of external communication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Domain 2: Diagnosis, Assessment, Investigation, Monitoring and Data Interpretation

General Principles

It is very easy to acquire large amounts of data in modern medical practice. The challenge is to acquire appropriate data and convert it into information, essential steps on the pathway to diagnosis and treatment. Monitoring devices combine the functions of clinical investigation with surveillance.

Clinical investigations are forms of hypothesis testing; they bring burdens and occasional risks for patients, as well as additional costs and work for the investigating clinician and laboratory staff. Their utility, safety and accuracy must be balanced against these factors.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Recognition of clinical signs and symptoms
- Planning and prioritisation of investigations and monitoring – appropriate; timely
- Safe use of equipment / devices
- Obtain data effectively
- Interpret data in clinical context
- Effective clinical decision making supported by critical thinking and reflection
- Accurate differential diagnosis on basis of information available: review in light of clinical changes
- Effective team-working: planning and interpretation of investigations
- Appropriate referral / consultation / further investigation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)
- Attention to patient safety

Domain 2: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Obtains a history and performs and accurate clinical examination</td>
<td>I, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Undertakes timely and appropriate investigations</td>
<td>I, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Performs electrocardiography (ECG / EKG) and interprets the results</td>
<td>D, I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Obtains appropriate microbiological samples and interprets results</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Obtains and interprets the results from blood gas samples</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>Interprets imaging studies</td>
<td>I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Monitors and responds to trends in physiological variables</td>
<td>I, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>Integrates clinical findings with laboratory investigations to form a differential diagnosis</td>
<td>I, C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 2: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.
### Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies

#### Knowledge

- Universal precautions and preventative infection control techniques (hand washing, gloves, protective clothing, sharps disposal etc.)
- Principles of aseptic technique and aseptic handling of invasive medical devices

#### Skills

- Acquire, interpret, synthesize, record, and communicate (written and verbal) clinical information
- Document investigations undertaken, results and action taken
- Order and prioritise appropriate investigations
- Develop a working, and limited differential diagnosis based on presenting clinical features
- Professional and reassuring approach - generates confidence and trust in patients and their relatives
- Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role
- Consults, communicates and collaborates effectively with patients, relatives and the health care team

#### Attitudes

- Responds rapidly to acute changes in monitored variables
- Considers patient comfort during procedures / investigations
- Avoids unnecessary tests
- Avoids extensive invasive procedures or monitoring which cannot be adequately interpreted at the bedside
- Minimises patient discomfort in relation to monitoring devices
- Ensures safe and appropriate use of equipment
- Supports other staff in the correct use of devices
- Demonstrates desire to minimise patient distress
- Demonstrates compassionate care of patients and relatives
- Promotes respect for patient privacy, dignity and confidentiality
- Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)

### 2.1 Obtains a history and performs an accurate clinical examination

#### Knowledge

- Clinical signs associated with critical illness, their relative importance and interpretation
- Importance and principles of obtaining an accurate history of the current condition, co-morbidities and previous health status using appropriate sources of information
- Sources and methods of obtaining clinical information
- Relevance of prior health status in determining risk of critical illness and outcomes
- Impact of drug therapy on organ-system function

#### Skills

- Examine patients, elicit and interpret clinical signs (or relevant absence of clinical signs) in the ICU environment
- Obtain relevant information from the patient, relatives and other secondary sources.
- Review notes, investigations and prior events to confirm or refute working diagnosis.
- Listen effectively
- Recognise impending organ system dysfunction
- Integrate history with clinical examination to create a diagnostic and therapeutic plan

### 2.2 Undertakes timely and appropriate investigations

#### Knowledge

- Indications for and the selection of suitable methods of monitoring or investigation taking into account their accuracy, convenience, reliability, safety, cost and relevance to the patient’s condition.
- Sensitivity and specificity of the investigation as related to a specific disease
- Appropriate use of laboratory tests to confirm or refute a clinical diagnosis

#### Indications, limitations and basic interpretation of laboratory investigations of blood and other body fluids (e.g. urine, CSF, pleural and ascitic fluids):

- Haematology
- Immunology
- Cytology
- Blood grouping and x-matching
- Urea, creatinine, glucose, electrolytes and lactate
- Liver function tests
- Drug levels in blood or plasma
- Tests of endocrine function (diabetes, thyroid disorders, adrenal failure)
- Blood gas samples (arterial, venous and mixed venous)
- Microbiological surveillance and clinical sampling

Principles, indications, limitations and basic interpretation of:
- Respiratory function tests
- Diagnostic bronchoscopy
- Diagnostic ECG (EKG)
- Echocardiography
- Electroencephalogram (EEG) and evoked potentials
- Intra-abdominal pressure monitoring
- Intrathoracic pressure (oesophageal pressure) measurements
- Fluid input-output monitoring

Principles, including indications, limitations and therapeutic modalities of:
Basic radiological methods, CT scanning, ultrasound, MRI, angiography and radionucleotide studies in the critically ill patient
Risks to patient and staff of radiological procedures and precautions to minimise risk
Invasive and non-invasive systems available for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables, the principles involved and the type and site of placement of the monitoring device
Risks to patient and staff of radiological procedures and precautions to minimise risk

Skills
Recognise impending organ system dysfunction
Evaluate benefits and risks related to specific investigations
Interpret laboratory results in the context of the patient’s condition
Identify abnormalities requiring urgent intervention
Recognise significant changes and the need for repeated testing (i.e. that a single normal result is not as significant as identifying trends of change by repeated testing where indicated)
Undertake further consultation / investigation when indicated

### 2.3 Performs electrocardiography (ECG / EKG) and interprets the results

**Knowledge**
Principles of ECG monitoring (heart rate, rhythm, conduction, ST segment change and QT interval) – indications, limitations and techniques. Advantages and disadvantages of different lead configurations
Sensitivity and specificity of the investigation as related to a specific disease

**Skills**
Obtain and interpret data from ECG (3- and 12-lead)
Identify deviations from normal range and interpret these in the context of the clinical circumstances
Identify abnormalities requiring urgent intervention
Differentiate real change from artefact and respond appropriately

### 2.4 Obtains appropriate microbiological samples and interprets results

**Knowledge**
Epidemiology and prevention of infection in the ICU
Types of organisms – emergence of resistant strains, mode of transfer, opportunistic and nosocomial infections; difference between contamination, colonisation and infection
Requirements for microbiological surveillance and clinical sampling
Indications for microbiological sampling and interpretation of microbiological test results
Sensitivity and specificity of the investigation as related to a specific disease
Methods and routes of obtaining samples – associated indications and complications
Appropriate use of laboratory tests to confirm or refute a clinical diagnosis
Local patterns of bacterial resistance and antibiotic policy
Indications for and contraindications to lumbar puncture and CSF sampling; laboratory analysis of CSF samples
### Skills
- Obtain blood cultures using aseptic techniques
- Interpret laboratory results in the context of the patient’s condition
- Integrate clinical findings with results of investigations
- Communicate and collaborate effectively with all laboratory staff
- Undertake further consultation / investigation when indicated
- Assemble clinical and laboratory data, logically compare all potential solutions to the patient’s problems, prioritise them and establish a clinical management plan

### 2.5 Obtains and interprets the results from blood gas samples

#### Knowledge
- Indications for and interpretation of arterial blood gas samples
- Methods and routes of obtaining samples - associated indications and complications
- Pre-analytical errors of arterial blood gas sampling (choice of sample site, sampling device, heparin, mixing, storage and transport)
- Clinical measurement: pH, pCO₂, pO₂, SaO₂, FiO₂, CO₂ production, oxygen consumption, respiratory quotient
- Sensitivity and specificity of the investigation as related to a specific disease

#### Skills
- Obtain blood gas samples using aseptic techniques
- Interpret data from an arterial blood gas sample
- Interpret data from a central or mixed venous blood gas sample
- Identify deviations from normal range and interpret these in the context of the clinical circumstances
- Identify abnormalities requiring urgent intervention
- Confirm adequate oxygenation and control of PaCO₂ and pH
- Undertake further consultation / investigation when indicated

### 2.6 Interprets imaging studies

#### Knowledge
- Principles, including indications, limitations and therapeutic modalities of:
  - Basic radiological methods, CT scanning, ultrasound
  - Indications for and basic interpretation of chest radiographs: range of normal features on a chest x-ray; collapse, consolidation, infiltrates (including ALI/ARDS), pneumothorax, pleural effusion, pericardial effusion, position of cannulae, tubes or foreign bodies, airway compression, cardiac silhouette, mediastinal masses
  - Risks to patient and staff of radiological procedures and precautions to minimise risk
  - Indications for and limitations of investigations
  - Sensitivity and specificity of the investigation as related to a specific disease
  - Effect of projection, position, penetration and other factors on the image quality
  - Principles, including indications, limitations and therapeutic modalities of:
    - MRI, ultrasound, angiography and radionucleotide studies in the critically ill patient

#### Skills
- Interpret chest x-rays in a variety of clinical contexts
- Basic interpretation of radiological investigations:
  - Neck and thoracic inlet films
  - X-rays of abdominal fluid levels / free air
  - X-rays of long bone, skull; vertebral and rib fractures
  - CT or MRI scans of head demonstrating fractures, haemorrhage, critically raised ICP and hydrocephalus
  - Ultrasound of the abdomen (liver, spleen, large abdominal vessels, kidney, urinary bladder)
  - Echocardiography (ventricular function, filling status, valve abnormality, size of the heart, any kinetic or dyskentic segments, pericardial effusion with or without evidence of tamponade)
- Identify abnormalities requiring urgent intervention
- Identify deviations from normal and interpret these in the context of the clinical circumstances
- Undertake further consultation / investigation when indicated
- Communicate effectively with radiological colleagues to plan, perform and interpret test results
## 2.7 Monitors and responds to trends in physiological variables

### Knowledge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indications, contraindications and complications</td>
<td>Associated with monitoring and monitoring devices; advantages and disadvantages of different monitoring systems / modalities taking into account their accuracy, convenience, reliability, safety, cost and relevance to the patient's condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation of information from monitoring devices, and identification of common causes of error; principles of monitoring trends of change and their significance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazards of inappropriate monitoring including misuse of alarms; principles of disconnection monitors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of invasive pressure monitoring devices: components and functions of an electromanometer system (catheter, tubing, transducer, amplifier and display unit); zero and calibration techniques; dynamics of the system - natural frequency and damping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of haemodynamic monitoring - invasive and non invasive methods, indications and limitations, physiological parameters and waveform interpretation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive and non-invasive systems available for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables, the principles involved and the type and site of placement of the monitoring device</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation of, relationships between, sources of error and limitations of measured and derived cardiovascular variables including pressure, flow, volume and gas transport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods for measuring temperature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles, indications and limitations of pulse oximetry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of ECG monitoring (heart rate, rhythm, conduction, ST segment change and QT interval) - indications, limitations and techniques. Advantages and disadvantages of different lead configurations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principles of monitoring ventilation:</strong></td>
<td>Significance of respiratory rate, tidal volume, minute volume, mean, peak, end expiratory and plateau pressure, intrinsic and extrinsic PEEP, inspired oxygen concentration, arterial blood gas and acid base status, relationship between mode of ventilation and choice of parameters monitored; airflow and airway pressure waveforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical principles, indications and limitations of end tidal CO₂ monitoring. Relationship between end tidal CO₂ and arterial pCO₂ in various clinical circumstances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of fluid input-output monitoring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods for assessing pain and sedation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles, indications and limitations of intra-abdominal pressure monitoring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems available for intracranial pressure monitoring – indications, principles, type and site of placement of the monitoring device, data collection and trouble-shooting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications and techniques of jugular bulb oximetry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitor vital physiological functions as indicated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain and accurately record data from monitors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiate real change from artefact and respond appropriately</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set and interpret data from ventilator alarms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify deviations from normal range and interpret these in the context of the clinical circumstances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise and rapidly respond to adverse trends in monitored parameters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise patterns in trends - early diagnosis and outcome prediction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review the need for continued monitoring regularly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Obtain and interpret data from:</strong></td>
<td>invasive and non-invasive arterial blood pressure measurement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ECG / EKG (3 and 12 lead)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>central venous catheters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pulse oximetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FVC, spirometry and peak flow measurement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pulmonary artery catheter or oesophageal Doppler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>inspired and expired gas monitoring for O₂, CO₂ and NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>intracranial pressure monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jugular bulb catheters and SjvO₂ monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set monitor alarms appropriately</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpret data from scoring or scaling systems to assess pain and sedation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess and document Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise changes in intracranial pressure and cerebral perfusion pressure which are life threatening</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2.8 Integrates clinical findings with laboratory investigations to form a differential diagnosis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sensitivity and specificity of the investigation as related to a specific disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate use of laboratory tests to confirm or refute a clinical diagnosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation of information from monitoring devices, and identification of common causes of error; principles of monitoring trends of change and their significance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obtain relevant information from the patient, relatives and other secondary sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examine patients, elicit and interpret clinical signs (or relevant absence of clinical signs) in the ICU environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrate clinical findings with results of investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpret laboratory results in the context of the patient's condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify abnormalities requiring urgent intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate and collaborate effectively with all laboratory staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In emergency situations, confirm or refute early diagnoses before data collection / analysis is complete - make contingency plans based on these diagnoses to combat further threats to the patient's life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemble clinical and laboratory data, logically compare all potential solutions to the patient's problems, prioritise them and establish a clinical management plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Domain 3: Disease Management

General Principles

Diagnostic accuracy determines therapeutic specificity. Although in the early phases of managing an acutely ill patient, physiological safety and support are the main issues, making the correct diagnosis and providing the right treatment will determine the patient’s outcome. Disease management therefore requires skills in integrating clinical information with laboratory data, and applying ‘best practice’ guidelines promptly and effectively. It also involves regular clinical review with revision of diagnostic possibilities and modification of treatment according to patient response. The possibility of incomplete, partial or incorrect diagnosis should be borne in mind when reviewing and particularly if the patient is deteriorating alternative diagnoses should be sought.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Recognition of clinical signs and symptoms
- Identification of main acute complications and management
- Planning and prioritisation of investigations and monitoring – appropriate; timely
- Appropriate differential diagnosis with regular review and update
- Clear decision making and plan of management (including application of relevant protocols / guidelines / care bundles)
- Effective team-working: collaboration, communication and continuity of care
- Professional relationship with patient and relatives: communication; interpersonal skills; attention to patient comfort; ethical principles
- Appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)

Domain 3: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Manages the care of the critically ill patient with specific acute medical conditions</td>
<td>D, I, C, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Identifies the implications of chronic and co-morbid disease in the acutely ill patient</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the patient with circulatory failure</td>
<td>I, C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute kidney injury</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute liver failure</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the patient with neurological impairment</td>
<td>I, C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the patient with acute gastrointestinal failure</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the patient with acute lung injury syndromes (ALI / ARDS)</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the septic patient</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>Recognises and manages the patient following intoxication with drugs or environmental toxins</td>
<td>I, C, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Domain 3: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of occupational and environmental exposures, socio-economic factors, and life style factors on critical illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises the importance of timely institution of organ-system support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises the differences between organ system support and specific treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire, interpret, synthesize, record, and communicate (written and verbal) clinical information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order and prioritise appropriate investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop a working, and limited differential diagnosis based on presenting clinical features</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prioritise therapy according to the patient's needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Define targets of therapy and review efficacy at regular intervals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider modifying diagnosis and/or therapy if goals are not achieved or in light of new information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise and manage emergencies; seek assistance appropriately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critically appraise the evidence for and against specific therapeutic interventions or treatments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consults, communicates and collaborates effectively with patients, relatives and the health care team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attitudes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopts a problem solving approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates compassionate care of patients and relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates desire to minimise patient distress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enquiring mind, undertakes critical analysis of published literature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Acute Disease

**3.1 Manages the care of the critically ill patient with specific acute medical conditions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pathophysiology, diagnosis and management of commonly encountered acute medical conditions including:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Respiratory disorders:</strong> The unprotected airway; pneumonia, lung or lobar collapse, asthma, chronic obstructive airways disease, pulmonary oedema, pneumothorax (simple and tension), pulmonary embolus, pleural effusion, acute lung injury (ALI) and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and their causative factors; pulmonary haemorrhage, upper and lower airway obstruction including epiglottitis; respiratory muscle disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cardiovascular disorders:</strong> Common arrhythmias and conduction disturbances, shock states (anaphylactic, cardiogenic, hypovolaemic, septic); crescendo or unstable angina; acute myocardial infarction; left ventricular failure; hypotension and hypertension, valvular heart disease; vaso-occlusive diseases; pulmonary hypertension; right ventricular failure; cor pulmonale; malignant hypertension; cardiac tamponade; pacing box failure, cardiomyopathies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Neurological disorders:</strong> Acute confusional states and coma; post-anoxic brain damage; intracranial haemorrhage and infarction; sub-arachnoid haemorrhage; cerebro-vascular accidents (CVA / stroke); convulsions and status epilepticus; meningitis and encephalitis, Medical causes of raised intracranial pressure; acute neuromuscular diseases causing respiratory difficulty (e.g. Guillain-Barre, myasthenia gravis, malignant hyperpyrexia); critical illness polyneuropathy, motor neuropathy and myopathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Renal and genito-urinary disorders:</strong> Urological sepsis; acute kidney injury; chronic renal failure; nephrotoxic drugs and monitoring, renal manifestations of systemic disease including vasculitides; rhabdomyolysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Gastrointestinal disorders:**
peptic/stress ulceration; upper GI haemorrhage; diarrhoea and vomiting; acute pancreatitis; cholecystitis; jaundice; acute and chronic liver failure; fulminant hepatic failure; paracetamol (acetaminophen)-induced liver injury; inflammatory bowel diseases; peritonitis; ascites; mesenteric infarction; perforated viscus; bowel obstruction and pseudo-obstruction; abdominal trauma; intra-abdominal hypertension and compartment syndrome; short-bowel syndrome; rupture of liver or spleen.

**Haematological and oncological disorders:**
Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC) and other coagulation disorders, Massive blood transfusion, acute and chronic anemia; haemolytic syndromes, immune disorders. Lymphoproliferative disorders. High risk groups: the immunosuppressed or immunoincompetent patient, chemotherapy, agranulocytosis and bone marrow transplant patients.

**Infections:**
Organisms causing specific infections: Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria, fungi, protozoa, viruses, pyrexia and hypothermia; organ-specific signs of infection including haematogenous (venous catheterrelated, endocarditis, meningococcal disease), urological, pulmonary, abdominal (peritonitis, diarrhoea), skeletal (septic arthritis), nosocomial infections, pyometria; septic abortion

**Metabolic disorders:**
Electrolyte disorders; acid-base disorders; fluid-balance disorders; thermoregulation and associated disorders

**Endocrine disorders:**
Diabetes mellitus, critical illness-induced hyperglycaemia, over- and under-activity of thyroid; adrenal and pituitary disorders; sepsis-induced relative adrenal insufficiency; endocrine emergencies;

**Treatment algorithms for common medical emergencies**
Multisystem effects of acute medical conditions and implications for clinical management
Therapies available for the treatment of commonly encountered medical conditions, their efficacy and potential side-effects

**Definitive / long term management of commonly encountered acute medical conditions**
Diagnosis and management of other acute medical conditions until appropriate specialist assistance is available
Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile
Concept of risk : benefit ratio and cost effectiveness of therapies
Complications of the disease processes; effects of disease and its treatments on other organ systems
Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient's response to treatment
Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome

**Long term effects of acute medical conditions and late complications**
Risk factors, recognition and assessment of single or multiple organ failure
Define the steps of diagnostic reasoning
Conceptualise the clinical problem
Develop problem list and action plan

**Skills**
Recognise and diagnose commonly encountered acute medical conditions
Recognise impending organ system dysfunction
Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
Identify and manage chronic co-morbid disease

---

**Chronic Disease**

### 3.2 Identifies the implications of chronic and co-morbid disease in the acutely ill patient

**Knowledge**
Pathophysiology, diagnosis and management of commonly encountered chronic medical conditions including:

**Respiratory disorders:**
Asthma; chronic obstructive airways disease; pulmonary fibrosis; pulmonary thromboembolic disease; respiratory muscle disorders

**Cardiovascular disorders:**
Hypertension; angina; chronic heart failure (LVF / RVF); veno-occlusive disorders; cardiomyopathies; valvular heart disease and prosthetic valves; pulmonary hypertension; cor pulmonale; common arrhythmias and conduction
disturbances; peripheral vascular disease

**Neurological disorders:**
- Cerebro-vascular accidents (CVA / stroke);
- Epilepsy;
- Dementia;
- Neuropathy and myopathy

**Renal disorders:**
- Chronic renal failure;
- Renal manifestations of systemic disease including vasculitides; nephrotoxic drugs

**Gastrointestinal disorders:**
- Chronic pancreatitis;
- Chronic liver failure;
- Cirrhosis;
- Inflammatory bowel diseases

**Renal manifestations of systemic disease including vasculitides; nephrotoxic drugs**

**Haematological and oncological disorders:**
- Coagulation disorders, hemolytic syndromes, platelet disorders;
- Chronic anemia, immune disorders, malignancy including complications of chemotherapy and radiotherapy

**Endocrine disorders:**
- Diabetes;
- Thyroid, adrenal and pituitary disorders

**Psychiatric disorders:**
- Depression;
- Psychosis

**Causes and consequences of decompensation in chronic organ failure; diagnosis and management of acute-on-chronic organ failure**

**Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient’s response to treatment**

**Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome**

**Implications of acute illness in patients with chronic respiratory failure requiring long term home ventilation**

**Use of home ventilators, cough assist devices and other aids to respiratory care in the community**

**Skills**
- Identify and manage chronic co-morbid disease
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Identify and evaluate requirements for continuation of chronic treatments during and after the acute illness
- Evaluate the impact of chronic disease and prior health on outcomes
- Take chronic health factors into account when determining suitability for intensive care
- Recognise the wide range of acute and long-term presentations involving use of alcohol and other drugs (e.g. trauma, depression, hypertension)

## Organ System Failure

### 3.3 Recognises and manages the patient with circulatory failure

**Knowledge**

**Risk factors, recognition and assessment of circulatory failure**

**Cardiovascular disorders:**
- Cardiac arrest;
- Common arrhythmias and conduction disturbances, shock states (anaphylactic, cardiogenic, hypovolaemic, septic);
- Crescendo or unstable angina;
- Acute myocardial infarction;
- Left ventricular failure;
- Hypotension and hypertension;
- Circulatory effects of pulmonary embolism & tension pneumothorax;
- Valvular heart disease;
- Vaso-occlusive diseases;
- Pulmonary hypertension;
- Right ventricular failure;
- Cor pulmonale;
- Malignant hypertension;
- Cardiac tamponade;
- Pacing box failure;
- Cardiomyopathies

**Cardiopulmonary resuscitation**

**Effect of circulatory failure and its treatment on other organ systems**

**Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile**

**Use of fluids and vasoactive / inotropic / anti-arrhythmic drugs to support the circulation (see 4.4)**

**Complications of specific therapies, their incidence and management**

**Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient’s response to treatment**

**Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome**

**Use of mechanical assist devices to support the circulation (see 4.4)**

**Skills**
- Identify patients at risk of developing circulatory failure
- Assess, predict and manage circulatory shock
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Use fluids and vasoactive / inotropic drugs to support the circulation (see 4.4)
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Measure and interpret haemodynamic variables (including derived variables)
### 3.4 Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute renal failure

#### Knowledge
- Symptoms, signs and causes of renal failure including acute kidney injury / chronic / acute on chronic and indications for intervention
- Distinguishing features of acute versus chronic renal failure and implications for management
- Causes and complications of renal failure - methods to prevent or treat these
  - Renal and genito-urinary disorders:
    - Oliguria and anuria; polyuria; urological sepsis; acute renal failure; chronic renal failure; nephrotoxic drugs and monitoring, renal manifestations of systemic disease including vasculitides; rhabdomyolysis
  - Metabolic disorders: electrolyte disorders (notably hyperkalaemia); acid-base disorders; fluid balance disorders
- Investigation of impaired renal function
- Range of therapeutic interventions available to support organ function and treat the underlying causes
- Nephrotoxic drugs and adjustment of drug doses in renal impairment/failure
- Indications for and basic interpretation of drug concentrations in blood or plasma
- Urinary catheterisation techniques: transurethral and suprapubic
- Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile
- Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient's response to treatment
- Indications, complications and selection of renal replacement therapies (continuous and intermittent)
- Effect of renal failure and its treatment on other organ systems
- Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome

#### Skills
- Identify patients at risk of developing renal failure
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Perform aseptic urinary catheterisation: male and female (see 5.24)
- Identify and avoid factors contributing to impaired renal function
- Initiate, manage and wean patients from renal replacement therapy (see 4.7)

### 3.5 Recognises and manages the patient with, or at risk of, acute liver failure

#### Basic Science

#### Knowledge
- Functions of the liver - biosynthetic, immunologic, and detoxification
- Symptoms and signs of acute liver failure and assessment of severity
- Investigation of impaired hepatic function
- Causes and complications of acute and acute-on-chronic liver failure, their prevention and management
- Causes, recognition and management of associated disorders:
  - Gastrointestinal disorders:
    - Abdominal pain and distension; peptic ulceration and upper GI haemorrhage; diarrhoea and vomiting; pancreatitis; jaundice; acute and chronic liver failure; fulminant hepatic failure; paracetamol (acetaminophen)-induced liver injury; rupture of liver or spleen
  - Cardiovascular disorders:
    - Hypotension and hypertension (including hypertensive emergencies); shock (cardiogenic, hypovolaemic, septic, anaphylactic); common arrhythmias and conduction disturbances.
  - Metabolic disorders:
    - Electrolyte disorders; acid-base disorders; fluid-balance disorders; thermoregulation and associated disorders
  - Haematological disorders:
    - Coagulation and fibrinolytic pathways and their associated disorders; disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC); hemolytic syndromes, acute anaemia; complications of massive blood transfusion
  - Neurological disorders:
    - acute confusional states and coma; post-anoxic brain damage; convulsions; encephalopathy; raised intracranial pressure
- Pathogenesis of multiple organ dysfunction (MODS) and the inflammatory response in relation to organ system dysfunction
Methods for assessing neurological function e.g. Glasgow Coma Scale
Indications for and basic interpretation of drug concentrationss in blood or plasma
Principles of blood glucose control: indications, methods, monitoring of safety and efficacy
Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile
Principles of cerebral perfusion pressure, cerebral oxygen delivery and the methods by which they may be optimised
Factors and therapies which may influence intracranial pressure and cerebral perfusion pressure
Hepatotoxic drugs and adjustment of drug doses in hepatic impairment / failure
Principles and techniques for insertion of gastro-oesophageal balloon tamponade tube (e.g. Sengstaken-Blakemore)
Causes, recognition and management of HELLP syndrome
Effect of liver failure and its treatment on other organ systems
Principles of outcome prediction / prognotic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome
Supportive therapy for the failing liver including extracorporeal liver support and indications for emergency liver transplantation
Principles of measurement of jugular venous saturation, cerebral Doppler velocities and cerebral blood flow.
Indications for transcutaneous and transjugular liver biopsies and transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPSS)
Effects, common presentations and potential for harm of alcohol and other drugs.
Range of interventions, treatments and prognoses for use of alcohol and other drugs.
Skills
Identify patients at risk of developing acute liver failure
Interpret laboratory tests of liver function
Recognise impending organ system dysfunction
Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
Assess and document Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)
Identify and manage coagulopathies
Prevent, identify and manage hyper / hypoglycaemia
Examine and plan care for the confused patient
Take prompt action to reduce acutely elevated intracranial pressure
Manage cardiorespiratory physiology to minimise rises in intracranial pressure
Prevent, identify and treat hyponatraemia
Make an assessment of alcohol and other drug use, including taking a history and using validated tools.

3.6 Recognises and manages the patient with neurological impairment

Knowledge
Signs and symptoms of neurological impairment
The toxic, metabolic, structural, and infectious causes of altered consciousness
Investigation of impaired neurological function; methods for assessing neurological function (e.g. Glasgow Coma Scale)
Neurological disorders:
acute confusional states and coma; post-anoxic brain damage; intracranial haemorrhage and infarction; sub-arachnoid haemorrhage; cerebro-vascular accidents (CVA / stroke); convulsions and status epilepticus; meningitis and encephalitis; medical causes of raised intracranial pressure; acute neuromuscular diseases causing respiratory difficulty (e.g. Guillain-Barre, myasthenia gravis, malignant hyperpyrexia); critical illness polyneuropathy, motor neuropathy and myopathy
Causes, recognition and management of associated disorders:
Metabolic disorders:
Electrolyte disorders; acid-base disorders; fluid-balance disorders; thermoregulation and associated disorders
Signs and symptoms of acute airway insufficiency and acute respiratory failure; indications for intervention in the patient with neurological impairment
Indications, contraindications and complications of lumbar puncture (see 5.15)
Indications for urgent imaging of the brain and neurosurgical consultation
Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile
Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient’s response to treatment
Principles of cerebral perfusion pressure, cerebral oxygen delivery and the methods by which they may be optimised
Factors and therapies which may influence intracranial and cerebral perfusion pressure
Aetiology and management of raised intracranial pressure (ICP)
### Principles of management of closed head injury including indications for decompressive craniectomy
- Coup and contra-coup injuries
- Methods of preventing the 'second insult' to the brain
- Management of vasospasm
- Application of techniques to treat or induce hypo/hyperthermia
- Principles, indications and limitations of electroencephalogram (EEG) and evoked potentials
- Effect of impaired neurological function and its support and treatment on other organ systems
- Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome
- Systems available for intracranial pressure monitoring - indications, principles, type and site of placement of the monitoring device, data collection and trouble-shooting
- Cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) drainage for raised ICP (lumbar drain and extraventricular drain)
- Principles of measurement of jugular venous saturation, cerebral Doppler velocities and cerebral blood flow.
- Indications for plasmapheresis or immunoglobulins in Guillain Barre and myasthenic patients (see 4.3)
- Use of thiopentone infusions to induce deep coma

### Skills
- Identify patients at risk of neurological impairment
- Identify and avoid factors contributing to neurological impairment
- Assess and document Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Perform a lumbar puncture
- Examine and plan care for the confused patient
- Recognise changes in intracranial pressure and cerebral perfusion pressure which are life threatening
- Take prompt action to reduce acutely elevated intracranial pressure
- Manage cardiorespiratory physiology to minimise rises in intracranial pressure
- Undertake or assist in the insertion and maintenance of an intracranial pressure monitor
- Obtain and interpret data from intracranial pressure monitoring
- Determine when the patient's needs exceed local resources or specialist expertise (requirement for transfer)
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies

### 3.7 Recognises and manages the patient with acute gastrointestinal failure

#### Knowledge
- Signs and symptoms of gastrointestinal dysfunction (obstruction, ischemia, perforation, dysmotility)
- Causes and complications of gastrointestinal failure
- Effects of critical illness and treatments on gastric emptying
- Investigation of acute gastrointestinal dysfunction
  - **Gastrointestinal disorders:** Abdominal pain and distension; stress/peptic ulceration and upper GI haemorrhage; lower GI bleeding; diarrhoea and vomiting; Pancreatitis; jaundice; cholecystitis; inflammatory bowel diseases; peritonitis; mesenteric infarction; perforated viscus; bowel obstruction; ascites; intra-abdominal hypertension & compartment syndrome; short-bowel syndrome, GI fistulae.
- Causes, recognition and management of associated disorders:
  - **Metabolic disorders:** Electrolyte disorders; acid-base disorders; fluid-balance disorders; thermoregulation and associated disorders
- Indications for urgent imaging and surgical consultation
- Factors and therapies which may influence intra-abdominal pressure; aetiology and management of raised intra-abdominal pressure
- Effects of impaired gastrointestinal function and its treatment on other organ systems
- Principles of nutritional assessment and support (see 4.9)
- Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile
- Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient’s response to treatment
- Principles and techniques for insertion of gastro-oesophageal balloon tamponade tube (e.g. Sengstaken-Blakemore)
- Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome

#### Skills
- Identify and avoid factors contributing to gastrointestinal dysfunction
- Identify patients at risk of gastrointestinal dysfunction
Prevent, identify and manage hyper / hypoglycaemia
Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies

### 3.8 Recognises and manages the patient with acute lung injury syndromes (ALI / ARDS)

#### Knowledge
- Symptoms and signs of acute airway insufficiency and acute respiratory failure, and indications for intervention
- Causes of respiratory failure, their prevention and management
- **Respiratory disorders:**
  - Tachypnoea, dyspnoea, pneumonia, lung or lobar collapse, pulmonary oedema, pulmonary embolus, pleural effusion, pneumothorax (simple and tension), acute lung injury (ALI) and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and their causative factors; pulmonary haemorrhage, near-drowning
- Pathogenesis of acute lung injury (ALI / ARDS)
- Pathogenesis of multiple organ dysfunction (MODS) and the inflammatory response in relation to organ system dysfunction
- Indications for and basic interpretation of chest radiographs: range of normal features on a chest x-ray; collapse, consolidation, infiltrates (including ALI/ARDS), pneumothorax, pleural effusion, pericardial effusion, position of cannulae, tubes or foreign bodies, airway compression, cardiac silhouette, mediastinal masses
- Indications for and methods of invasive and non-invasive mechanical ventilation
- Initial set-up and modification of ventilator settings according to the condition or response of the patient
- Potential adverse effects and complications of respiratory support and methods to minimise these
- Detection and management of haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension)
- Lung protective ventilation for acute lung injury (ALI)
- Principles of weaning from mechanical ventilation and factors which may inhibit weaning
- Modes of mechanical ventilation - indications, contraindications and expected results of each mode (CMV, IRV, PRVC, HFOV, SIMV, PS, CPAP, BiPAP, NIV)
- Ventilator associated pneumonia: definition, pathogenesis and prevention
- Concept of risk : benefit ratio and cost effectiveness of therapies
- Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome
- Pharmacological and non-pharmacological adjunct therapies for ALI
- Principles of extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)

#### Skills
- Identify patients at risk of acute lung injury (ALI / ARDS)
- Implement emergency airway management and ventilation
- Select the appropriate type and mode of ventilation for an individual patient
- Identify and avoid factors contributing to acute lung injury
- Plan, implement, review and adapt lung protective approach during mechanical ventilation
- Perform thoracocentesis and manage intercostal drains (see 5.7)
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Plan, perform and review lung recruitment manoeuvres

### 3.9 Recognises and manages the septic patient

#### Knowledge
- Pathogenesis, definitions and diagnostic criteria of sepsis, severe sepsis, septic shock and systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS)
- Causes, recognition and management of sepsis-induced organ dysfunction; multisystem effects of sepsis and their impact on clinical management
- Pathogenesis of multiple organ dysfunction (MODS) and the inflammatory response in relation to organ system dysfunction
- Infection and its relation to the inflammatory response
  - **Infections:**
    - Organisms causing specific infections: Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria, fungi, protozoa, viruses, pyrexia and hypothermia; organ-specific signs of infection including haematogenous (venous catheter-related, endocarditis, meningococcal disease), urological, pulmonary, abdominal (peritonitis, diarrhoea), skeletal (septic arthritis) nosocomial
infections, pyometra; septic abortion

Techniques for effective fluid resuscitation
Use of fluids and vasoactive / inotropic / anti-arrhythmic drugs to support the circulation (see 4.4)

Indications, complications, interactions, selection, monitoring, and efficacy of common antimicrobial drugs (antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, antiprotozoal, antihelmintics)

Principles of blood glucose control: indications, methods, monitoring of safety and efficacy

Occult indicators of sepsis

Sepsis mediators

Local patterns of bacterial resistance and antibiotic policy

Evidence based guidelines: sepsis care bundles - rationale and indications; principles of early goal-directed therapy

Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile

Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient’s response to treatment

Detection and management of adrenocortical dysfunction

Concept of risk : benefit ratio and cost effectiveness of therapies

Prognostic implications of multiple systems dysfunction or failure

Safe use of therapies which modify the inflammatory response

Skills

Assess, predict and manage circulatory shock

Resuscitate a patient with septic shock using appropriate monitoring, fluid therapy and vasoactive agents

Manage antimicrobial drug therapy (see 4.2)

Obtain and interpret results of microbiological tests (see 2.5)

Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information

Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies

Prevent, identify and manage hyper / hypoglycaemia

3.10 Recognises and manages the patient following intoxication with drugs or environmental toxins

Knowledge

Symptoms and signs of acute intoxication associated with common intoxicants

Multisystem effects of acute intoxication and implications for clinical management

General supportive therapy and specific antidotes pertinent to individual intoxicants

Specific management of poisoning with aspirin, paracetamol/acetaminophen, paraquat, carbon monoxide, alcohol, ecstasy, tricyclic and quadricyclic antidepressants

Strategies to reduce absorption and enhance elimination (haemodialysis, haemoperfusion, gastric lavage and charcoal therapy): risks and benefits

Pharmacology of common intoxicants

Indications for and basic interpretation of drug concentrations in blood or plasma

Aware of and know how to contact National Poisons Information Bureau/Toxbase

Services available to patients and families to provide emotional or psychiatric support

Causes, recognition and management of associated disorders:

Cardiovascular disorders: drug induced arrhythmias and conduction disturbances

Respiratory disorders:
smoke inhalation or burned airway damage; carbon monoxide poisoning

Neurological disorders: drug induced neurological impairment

Renal disorders:
neprhotxic drugs - monitoring & adjustment of drug doses in renal impairment / failure; rhabdomyolysis

Metabolic disorders: electrolyte disorders; acid-base disorders; fluid-balance disorders; thermoregulation and associated disorders

Gastrointestinal disorders:
drug induced liver injury; hepatotoxic drugs and adjustment of drug doses in hepatic impairment / failure; fulminant hepatic failure

Haematology: drug induced coagulopathy

Management of acute liver failure (see 3.5)

Implement emergency airway management and ventilation

Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile

Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient’s response to treatment

III - 31
## Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome

### Indications and complications of hyperbaric oxygenation

### Skills

- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Interpret laboratory tests of liver function
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Assess and document Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)
- Implement emergency airway management and ventilation
- Identify patients at risk of developing renal failure
- Identify patients at risk of developing acute liver failure
- Identify and manage coagulopathies
- Examine and plan care for the confused patient
- Determine when the patient’s needs exceed local resources or specialist expertise (requirement for transfer)

### Knowledge

#### 3.11 Recognises life-threatening maternal peripartum complications and manages care under supervision

**Knowledge**

- Physiological changes associated with a normal pregnancy and delivery
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation of the pregnant patient
- Pathophysiology, identification and management of peripartum complications: pre-eclampsia and eclampsia; HELLP syndrome; amniotic fluid embolism; ante-partum and post-partum haemorrhage; ectopic pregnancy; septic abortion; peripartum cardiomyopathy,
- Risks and avoidance of pulmonary aspiration in pregnant patients
- Risk factors, identification and management of venous thromboembolism in the pregnant patient
- Methods of avoiding aorto-caval compression
- Indications and contraindications for treatment; circumstances when treatment is unnecessary or futile
- Causes, recognition and management of associated disorders:
  - Cardiovascular disorders: peripartum cardiomyopathy; pulmonary hypertension
  - Haematological disorders: coagulation and fibrinolytic pathways and their associated disorders; disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC); hemolytic syndromes, acute anaemia; complications of massive blood transfusion, principles of sell salvage
  - Metabolic disorders: electrolyte disorders; acid-base disorders; fluid-balance disorders; thermoregulation and associated disorders
- Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient’s response to treatment
- Management of critical illness in woman with concurrent pregnancy
- Awareness of the psychological impact of separation on the family
- Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome

### Skills

- Liaise with obstetric, midwifery and neonatal services
- Manage pregnancy induced hypertension
- Identify and manage coagulopathies
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Seek appropriate support and supervision in order to provide optimal patient care
Domain 4: Therapeutic interventions / Organ support in single or multiple organ failure

**General Principles**

Skilled organ-system support including appropriate therapeutic interventions is the ‘housekeeping’ of intensive care practice, a necessary – but in itself insufficient – requirement for promoting survival from critical illness. The practical procedures associated with organ system support are considered in the next section.

**Features of competent performance may include:**

- Awareness of relevant applied anatomy, physiology and pharmacology
- Consider indications and contraindications of therapeutic intervention
- Consider alternative modes, methods and techniques
- Safe use of equipment / device / drugs
- Complications: prevention; identification; management; awareness of interactions between different forms of organ system support
- Clearly defined therapeutic strategy / care plan and goals of therapy
- Evaluation and modification of therapy according to clinical response
- Appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)
- Attention to patient safety

Domain 4: **Competencies**

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>Prescribes drugs and therapies safely</td>
<td>D, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>Manages antimicrobial drug therapy</td>
<td>I, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>Administers blood and blood products safely</td>
<td>D, C, M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>Uses fluids and vasoactive / inotropic drugs to support the circulation</td>
<td>I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>Describes the uses of mechanical assist devices to support the circulation</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>Initiates, manages, and weans patients from invasive and non-invasive ventilatory support</td>
<td>D, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>Initiates, manages and weans patients from renal replacement therapy</td>
<td>D, I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>Recognises and manages electrolyte, glucose and acid-base disturbances</td>
<td>I, C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>Co-ordinates and provides nutritional assessment and support</td>
<td>I, C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 4: **Syllabus**

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise the roles of regulatory agencies involved in drug use, monitoring and licensing e.g. Committee on Safety of Medicines, National Institute for Clinical Excellence / Scottish Medicines Consortium, regional and hospital formulary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
committees

Skills
Prioritise therapy according to the patient’s needs
Recognise and manage emergencies; seek assistance appropriately
Define targets of therapy and review efficacy at regular intervals
Recognises the importance of resources when prescribing, including the role of a Drug Formulary and electronic prescribing systems
Consider modifying diagnosis and/or therapy if goals are not achieved
Obtain informed consent/assent from the patient where appropriate
Critically appraise the evidence for and against specific therapeutic interventions or treatments
Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role

Attitudes
Responds rapidly to acute changes in monitored variables
Consults, communicates and collaborates effectively with patients, relatives and the health care team skill
Desire to minimise patient distress
Demonstrates compassionate care of patients and relatives
Respects the expressed wishes of competent patients, even when in conflict with the views of the physician
Appreciates the differences between organ system support and specific treatment
Appreciates the importance of timely institution of organ-system support
Respects the ideas and beliefs of the patient and their family and their impact on decision making (does not impose own views)
Recognises the need for supportive care for all organ systems whether failing / injured or not
Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)
Participates in adverse drug event reporting mechanisms
Remains up to date with therapeutic alerts, and responds appropriately

Basic Science

Knowledge
Physiology of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose control

Science
Types of intermolecular bonds
Laws of diffusion. Diffusion of molecules through membranes
Solubility and partition coefficients
Ionization of drugs
Drug isomerism
Protein binding
Oxidation and reduction

- Drug uptake from: gastrointestinal tract, lungs, nasal, transdermal, subcutaneous, IM, IV, epidural and intrathecal routes
- Bioavailability
- Factors determining the distribution of drugs: perfusion, molecular size, solubility, protein binding.
- The influence of drug formulation on disposition
- Distribution of drugs to organs and tissues:
  - Body compartments
  - Influence of specialised membranes: tissue binding and solubility
  - Materno-foetal distribution
  - Distribution in CSF and extradural space
- Modes of drug elimination:
  - Direct excretion
  - Metabolism in organs of excretion: phase I and II mechanisms
  - Renal excretion and urinary pH
  - Non-organ breakdown of drugs
- Pharmacokinetic analysis:
  - Concept of a pharmacokinetic compartment
  - Apparent volume of distribution
• Orders of kinetics
• Clearance concepts applied to whole body and individual organs
• Simple 1 and 2 compartmental models: concepts of wash-in and washout curves
• Physiological models based on perfusion and partition coefficients
• Effect of organ blood flow: Fick principle
  Pharmacokinetic variation: influence of body size, sex, age, disease, pregnancy, anaesthesia, trauma, surgery, smoking, alcohol and other drugs

➤ Effects of acute organ failure (liver, kidney) on drug elimination
➤ Influence of renal replacement therapies on clearance of commonly used drugs
➤ Pharmacodynamics: concentration-effect relationships: hysteresis
➤ Pharmacogenetics: familial variation in drug response
➤ Adverse reactions to drugs: hypersensitivity, allergy, anaphylaxis, anaphylactoid reactions

➤ Dynamics of drug-receptor interaction.
➤ Agonists, antagonists, partial agonists, inverse agonists.
➤ Efficacy and potency. Tolerance.
➤ Receptor function and regulation.
➤ Metabolic pathways; enzymes; drug: enzyme interactions; Michaelis-Menten equation
➤ Enzyme inducers and inhibitors.
➤ Mechanisms of drug action
➤ Ion channels: types: relation to receptors. Gating mechanisms.
➤ Signal transduction: cell membrane/receptors/ion channels to intracellular molecular targets, second messengers
➤ Action of gases and vapours
➤ Osmotic effects. pH effects. Adsorption and chelation.
➤ Mechanisms of drug interactions:
➤ Inhibition and promotion of drug uptake. Competitive protein binding. Receptor inter-actions.
➤ Effects of metabolites and other degradation products.

Knowledge

Mode of action of drugs (see Basic Sciences)
Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics (see Basic Sciences)

Systemic pharmacology: indications, contraindications, effects and interactions of commonly used drugs including:
• hypnotics, sedatives and intravenous anaesthetic agents
• drugs used to treat delirium
• simple and opioid analgesics; opioid antagonists
• non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents
• neuromuscular blocking agents (depolarising and non-depolarising) and anti-cholinesterases
• drugs acting on the autonomic nervous system (inotropes, vasodilators, vasoconstrictors, antiarrhythmics)
• respiratory stimulants and bronchodilators
• anti-hypertensives
• anti-convulsants
• anti-diabetic agents
• diuretics
• antibiotics (antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, antiprotozoal, antihelmintics)
• corticosteroids and hormone preparations
• drugs influencing gastric secretion and motility; antiemetic agents
• local anaesthetic agents
• immunosuppressants
• antihistamines
• antidepressants
• anticoagulants
• plasma volume expanders

Adverse effects and interactions of drugs and their management
Recognition and management of serious adverse reactions and anaphylaxis
Local policies and procedures governing the prescription of drugs and therapies
Indications for and basic interpretation of drug concentrations in blood or plasma
Impact of drug therapy on organ-system function
Principles of blood glucose control: indications, methods, monitoring of safety and efficacy
Theoretical advantages and disadvantages of crystalloid and colloid solutions
Distinguishing features of acute versus chronic respiratory failure and implications for management
Nephrotoxic drugs and adjustment of drug doses in renal impairment/failure
Indications, limitations, methods, and complications of enteral and parenteral nutritional techniques
Risk of bleeding: indications, contraindications, monitoring and complications of therapeutic anticoagulants
Thrombolytic and anti-thrombolytic agents
Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient's response to treatment
Prophylactic therapies and indications for their use
Concept of risk: benefit ratio and cost effectiveness of therapies
Complications of specific therapies, their incidence and management
Circumstances when treatment is unnecessary
Effect of critical illness upon homeostatic mechanisms and causes of homeostatic disturbances
Treatment strategies for abnormalities of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose balance
Methods to assess and monitor intravascular volume and state of hydration using clinical signs and technology
Fluid therapies: components, physical properties, distribution and clearance of commonly used fluids; indications, contraindications and complications of their administration
Hepatotoxic drugs and adjustment of drug doses in hepatic impairment / failure
The pathogenesis and management of anaemia, thrombocytopenia, neutropenia and pancytopenia
Nutritional formulations: indications, complications and their management
Recognise the importance of resources when prescribing, including the role of a Drug Formulary

Skills
Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
Administer intravenous drugs (prepare, select route and mode of administration and document)
Prescribe appropriate antimicrobial therapy based on history, examination and preliminary investigations
Choose appropriate fluid, volume, rate and method of administration
Consider and exclude unknown pathology if goals of fluid therapy are not achieved (e.g. continued bleeding)
Prescribe and manage anticoagulation therapy
Prescribe an appropriate standard enteral feeding regimen
Set realistic goals for therapy (independently or in collaboration with other teams)
Identify and avoid factors contributing to impaired renal function
Consider risk-benefit and cost-benefit of alternative drugs and therapies
Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile
Use IT prescribing tools where available to improve safety
Remain up to date with therapeutic alerts, and respond appropriately

Attitudes
Appreciate the role of non-medical prescribers

4.2 Manages antimicrobial drug therapy

Knowledge
Epidemiology and prevention of infection in the ICU
Types of organisms - emergence of resistant strains, mode of transfer, opportunistic and nosocomial infections; difference between contamination, colonisation and infection
Local patterns of bacterial resistance and antibiotic policy
Indications, complications, interactions, selection, monitoring, and efficacy of common antimicrobial drugs (antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, antiprotozoal, anthelmintics)
Indications for and basic interpretation of drug concentrations in blood or plasma
Principles of prescribing initial empirical therapy and modification / refinement with further clinical and microbiological information
Impact of drug therapy on organ-system function
Risk factors for nosocomial infection and infection control measures to limit its occurrence
Ventilator associated pneumonia: definition, pathogenesis and prevention
Risks of inappropriate antimicrobial therapy on the patient and the environment
Requirements for microbiological surveillance and clinical sampling
Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient's response to treatment
Prophylactic therapies and indications for their use
### Circumstances when treatment is unnecessary

- Concept of gastrointestinal microbial translocation
- Safe use of therapies which modify the inflammatory response

### Skills

- Collaborate with microbiologists / infectious diseases clinicians to link clinical, laboratory and local (hospital / regional / national) microbiological data
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Prescribe appropriate antimicrobial therapy based on history, examination and preliminary investigations
- Administer intravenous drugs (prepare, select route and mode of administration and document)
- Set realistic goals for therapy (independently or in collaboration with other teams)
- Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile

### 4.3 Administers blood and blood products safely

#### Knowledge

- Indications for and basic interpretation of haematological tests (including coagulation and sickle tests)
- Indications for and basic interpretation of blood grouping and x-matching
- Indications for, contraindication, risks and alternatives to blood transfusion
- Local protocols which govern the ordering, storage and verification procedures, monitoring during administration of blood products and reporting of adverse incidents
- Principles of blood and blood component therapy; principles of massive transfusion, including cell salvage
- Infections from contaminated blood / body fluids; strategy if contaminated (e.g. needle stick injury)
- Coagulation and fibrinolytic pathways, and their associated disorders; clinical and laboratory evaluation of haemostasis
- Risk of bleeding: indications, contraindications, monitoring and complications of therapeutic anticoagulants
- Recognition and management of serious adverse reactions and anaphylaxis
- The pathogenesis and management of anaemia, thrombocytopenia, neutropenia and pancytopenia
- Thrombolytic and anti-thrombolytic agents
- Principles and practise of plasma exchange (see 3.6)

#### Skills

- Identify and correct haemostatic and coagulation disorders
- Order, check, verify and administer blood products according to local protocols
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile

### 4.4 Uses fluids and vasoactive / inotropic drugs to support the circulation

#### Knowledge

- Physiology and pathophysiology of the heart and circulation
- Pathophysiological effects of altered intravascular volume
- Pathophysiology and treatment of cardiac failure
- Theoretical advantages and disadvantages of crystalloid and colloid solutions
- Indications for, contraindication, risks and alternatives to blood transfusion
- Pathophysiology, detection and management of shock states according to aetiology and in response to physiological data
- Fluid therapies: components, physical properties, distribution and clearance of commonly used fluids; indications, contraindications and complications of their administration
- Mechanisms of assessment of response to fluid
- Indications and contraindications, limitations and complications of inotropic / vasoactive drug therapy
- Interactions between inotropic agents and concomitant therapies and/or co-morbid diseases (e.g. ischaemic heart disease)
- Principles of haemodynamic monitoring - invasive and non invasive methods, indications and limitations, physiological parameters and waveform interpretation
- Invasive and non-invasive systems available for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables, the principles involved and the type and site of placement of the monitoring device
- Indications and limitations of transthoracic / transoesophageal echocardiography in shocked patient
- Indications, limitations and complications of techniques of measurement of cardiac output (e.g. pulmonary artery catheter, oesophageal Doppler, PiCCO, LiDCO) and action to prevent them
- Integration of data from clinical examination and haemodynamic monitoring to characterise haemodynamic
derangements
Receptor-specific effects of inotropic and vasopressor agents; effects of critical illness and concomitant therapies on receptor function (e.g. down-regulation)

### Skills
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Resuscitate a patient with septic shock using appropriate monitoring, fluid therapy and vasoactive agents
- Choose appropriate fluid, volume, rate and method of administration
- Administer and monitor response to repeated fluid challenges
- Consider and exclude unknown pathology if goals of fluid therapy are not achieved (e.g. continued bleeding)
- Administer intravenous drugs (prepare, select route and mode of administration and document)
- Use infusion pumps to administer drugs and fluids
- Measure and interpret haemodynamic variables (including derived variables)
- Select an appropriate inotrope / vasopressor - dose, physiological endpoint, rate and route of administration

### 4.5 Describes the use of mechanical assist devices to support the circulation

#### Knowledge
- Pathophysiology and treatment of cardiac failure
- Principles and techniques of cardiac pacing
- Pathophysiology, detection and management of shock states according to aetiology and in response to physiological data
- Prophylactic therapies and indications for their use
- Principles of haemodynamic monitoring – invasive and non-invasive methods, indications and limitations, physiological parameters and waveform interpretation
- Invasive and non-invasive systems available for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables, the principles involved and the type and site of placement of the monitoring device
- Integration of data from clinical examination and haemodynamic monitoring to characterise haemodynamic derangements
- Principles of right and left ventricular assist devices
- Indications, contraindications, complications and basic principles of intra-aortic counter pulsation balloon pump
- Principles of extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)

### 4.6 Initiates, manages, and weans patients from invasive and non-invasive ventilatory support

#### Knowledge
- Causes of respiratory failure, their prevention and management
- Symptoms and signs of acute airway insufficiency and acute respiratory failure, and indications for intervention
- Distinguishing features of acute versus chronic respiratory failure and implications for management
- Principles of oxygen therapy and use of oxygen administration devices (see 5.1)
- Indications for and methods of invasive and non-invasive mechanical ventilation
- Principles of continuous positive airways pressure (CPAP) and positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) and CPAP and PEEP delivery systems
- Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3)
- Modes of mechanical ventilation - indications, contraindications and expected results of each mode (CMV, IRV, PRVC, HFOV, SIMV, PS, CPAP, BiPAP, NIV)
- Operation of at least one positive pressure ventilator, one non-invasive ventilator, and a constant positive airway pressure (CPAP) device
- A systematic approach to checking ventilator, breathing circuit and monitoring devices
- Initial set-up and modification of ventilator settings according to the condition or response of the patient
- Safe prescribing of oxygen; manifestations of pulmonary oxygen toxicity

#### Principles of monitoring ventilation:
- significance of respiratory rate, tidal volume, minute volume, mean, peak, end expiratory and plateau pressure, intrinsic and extrinsic PEEP, inspired oxygen concentration, arterial blood gas and acid base status; relationship between mode of ventilation and choice of parameters monitored; airflow and airway pressure waveforms
- Principles of weaning from mechanical ventilation and factors which may inhibit weaning
- Measures of adequacy of tissue oxygenation, eg base deficit, lactate, central venous saturation
- Measurement and interpretation of pulmonary mechanics during mechanical ventilation
Potential adverse effects and complications of respiratory support and methods to minimise these

Ventilator associated pneumonia: definition, pathogenesis and prevention

Causes of regurgitation and vomiting; prevention and management of pulmonary aspiration

Concept of gastrointestinal microbial translocation

Prophylactic therapies and indications for their use

Causes of lung injury in ventilated patients; effects and clinical manifestations of pulmonary barotrauma

Effect of ventilation upon cardiovascular and oxygen delivery parameters, other organ function and how these effects can be monitored (heart-lung interactions)

Principles of physiotherapy in the ICU

Indications and contraindications to tracheostomy (percutaneous and surgical) and minitracheostomy

Management of and complications associated with tracheostomy tubes

Concept of one lung ventilation and use of double lumen endotracheal tube (see 5.2)

Principles of extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)

**Skills**

Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information

Select the appropriate type and mode of ventilation for an individual patient

Identify and correct ventilator mis-assembly and disconnections

Stabilise a patient on a constant positive airway pressure (CPAP) device

Stabilise a patient on a non-invasive ventilator (NIV)

Stabilise a patient on a positive pressure ventilator

Interpret data from an arterial blood gas sample

Confirm adequate oxygenation and control of PaCO₂ and pH

Set and interpret data from ventilator alarms

Construct, monitor and review a weaning plan

Manages one lung ventilation via double lumen endotracheal tube (see 5.2)

---

**4.7 Initiates, manages, and weans patients from renal replacement therapy**

**Basic Science**

**Knowledge**

Physiology of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose control

Symptoms, signs and causes of renal failure including acute kidney injury / chronic / acute on chronic and indications for intervention

Investigation of impaired renal function

Distinguishing features of acute versus chronic renal failure and implications for management

Principles of haemofiltration, haemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, haemoperfusion and plasmapheresis

Indications, complications and selection of renal replacement therapies (continuous and intermittent)

Function and operation of continuous haemodiafiltration devices (key components and trouble-shooting)

Placement and management of invasive devices necessary for renal replacement therapy (e.g. temporary haemodialysis catheter)

Indications for and interpretation of fluid balance charts

Effect of renal failure and its treatment on other organ systems

Nephrotoxic drugs and adjustment of drug doses in renal impairment/failure

Fluid therapies: components, physical properties, distribution and clearance of commonly used fluids; indications, contraindications and complications of their administration

Effects of concomitant treatment and/or co-morbid conditions on an individual patient's response to treatment

**Skills**

Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information

Modify fluid and electrolyte therapy according to clinical features and fluid balance charts

Prevent hypokalaemia

Identify and correct haemostatic and coagulation disorders

Set realistic goals for therapy (independently or in collaboration with other teams)

Supervise the provision of continuous renal replacement therapy

Prescribe and manage anticoagulation therapy

Set appropriate exchange parameters and fluid balances for renal replacement therapies

Identify and avoid factors contributing to impaired renal function
Consider risk-benefit and cost-benefit of alternative drugs and therapies  
Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile

### 4.8 Recognises and manages electrolyte, glucose and acid-base disturbances

#### Basic Science  

**Knowledge**  

- Physiology of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose control  
- Pathophysiological consequences, signs and symptoms of disordered fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose balance  
- Effect of critical illness upon homeostatic mechanisms and causes of homeostatic disturbances  
- Principles of blood glucose control: indications, methods, monitoring of safety and efficacy  
- Treatment strategies for abnormalities of fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose balance  
- Symptoms, signs and causes of renal failure (acute / chronic / acute on chronic) and indications for intervention  
- Patterns of nutritional impairment; consequences of starvation and malnutrition  
- Fluid therapies: components, physical properties, distribution and clearance of commonly used fluids; indications, contraindications and complications of their administration  

#### Skills  

- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information  
- Correct electrolyte disorders (e.g. hyperkalaemia, hyponatraemia)  
- Institute and manage a regimen to control blood glucose within safe limits  
- Confirm adequate oxygenation and control of PaCO₂ and pH  
- Identify and treat underlying causes for a metabolic acidosis  
- Identify and avoid factors contributing to impaired renal function  
- Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile

### 4.9 Co-ordinates and provides nutritional assessment and support

#### Basic Science  

**Knowledge**  

- Principles of metabolism: nutrients – carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins and minerals; metabolic pathways, lactate metabolism, energy production and enzymes; metabolic rate; hormonal control of metabolism - regulation of plasma glucose; physiological alterations in starvation, obesity and stress response.  
- Gastrointestinal physiology: gastric function; secretions; gut motility, sphincters and reflex control; nausea and vomiting; digestive functions  
- Pathophysiological consequences, signs and symptoms of disordered fluid, electrolyte, acid-base and glucose balance  
- Methods to assess nutritional status and basal energy expenditure  
- Patterns of nutritional impairment; consequences of starvation, malnutrition and refeeding  
- Fluid and caloric requirements in the critically ill patient including electrolytes, vitamins, trace elements and principles of immunonutrition  
- Nutritional formulations: indications, complications and their management  
- Indications, limitations, methods, and complications of enteral and parenteral nutritional techniques  
- Principles of nasogastric cannulation in the intubated and non-intubated patient  
- Prevention of stress ulceration  
- Causes of regurgitation and vomiting; prevention and management of pulmonary aspiration  
- Prevention and management of constipation and diarrhoea  
- Principles of blood glucose control: indications, methods, monitoring of safety and efficacy  
- Alternative routes for enteral feeding: indications, contraindications and complications of post-pyloric and percutaneous feeding tube placement  
- Gut motility: effects of drugs, therapy and disease  
- Prokinetics: indications, contraindications, complications and selection  
- Antiemetics: indications, contraindications, complications and selection  
- Prevention and management of constipation and diarrhoea  
- Concept of gastrointestinal microbial translocation  

#### Skills  

- Prescribe an appropriate standard enteral feeding regimen  
- Identify surgical and other contraindications to enteral feeding
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institute and manage a regimen to control blood glucose within safe</td>
<td>limits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish a management plan (independently or in collaboration with</td>
<td>the clinical dietician)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribe and supervise safe administration of a standard /</td>
<td>customized parenteral (TPN) preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage the transition from parenteral to enteral nutrition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set realistic goals for therapy (independently or in collaboration</td>
<td>with other teams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborate with nursing staff / clinical dietician in monitoring</td>
<td>safe delivery of enteral and parenteral nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liaise with clinical dieticians / medical team to plan feeding</td>
<td>regimens after discharge from the ICU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Domain 5: Practical procedures

General Principles

Practical procedures underpin all forms of organ system support.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Sound decision making in when to perform a practical procedure and when to avoid it
- Prior planning and preparation of patient (including consent), staff and equipment
- Prioritisation of tasks (patients and procedures)
- Consider comfort of the patient
- Awareness of relevant applied anatomy and physiology
- Correct placement / insertion technique - alternative modes and methods
- Attention to safety: safe use of equipment, infection control, confirmation of correct placement, prevention / management of complications
- Maintenance and safe use of devices - troubleshooting
- Consider duration of placement, discontinuation and removal
- Appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)
- Indications for specific monitoring to ensure patient safety during an intervention / procedure
- Universal precautions and preventative infection control techniques (hand washing, gloves, protective clothing, sharps disposal etc.
- Consider the use of local anaesthetics as the norm

Domain 5: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Administers oxygen using a variety of administration devices</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Performs emergency airway management</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>Performs difficult and failed airway management according to local protocols</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>Performs endotracheal suction</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>Performs fibreoptic bronchoscopy and BAL in the intubated patient under supervision</td>
<td>D, M, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>Performs percutaneous tracheostomy</td>
<td>D, M, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>Performs chest drain insertion</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>Performs arterial catheterisation</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>Performs ultrasound techniques for vascular localisation</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.10</td>
<td>Performs central venous catheterisation</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.11</td>
<td>Performs defibrillation and cardioversion</td>
<td>D, C, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.12</td>
<td>Performs transthoracic cardiac pacing describes transvenous</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.13</td>
<td>Describes how to perform pericardiocentesis</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.14</td>
<td>Demonstrates a method for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables</td>
<td>D, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.15</td>
<td>Performs lumbar puncture (intradural / 'spinal') under supervision</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.16</td>
<td>Manages the administration of analgesia via an epidural catheter</td>
<td>I, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.17</td>
<td>Performs abdominal paracentesis</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Domain 5: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies

Knowledge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient selection - indications, contraindications and potential complications of the procedure / intervention</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods and routes of insertion - associated indications and complications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complications of the technique, how to prevent/recognise them and initiate appropriate treatment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of aseptic technique and aseptic handling of invasive medical devices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for specific monitoring to ensure patient safety during an intervention / procedure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detection of potential physiological alterations during the procedure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate use of drugs to facilitate the procedure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal precautions and preventative infection control techniques (hand washing, gloves, protective clothing, sharps disposal etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of sterilisation and cleaning or disposal of equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and use of the device once in situ necessary to minimise the risks of complications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications and technique for removal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prioritise tasks and procedures,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seek appropriate supervision - discuss the patient and procedure with supervisor prior to undertaking it</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit sound decision making</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain informed consent/assent from the patient where appropriate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select appropriate equipment or device and use resources efficiently</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare equipment, patient and staff prior to undertaking the procedure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose an appropriate route / method of insertion and position the patient accordingly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use protective clothing (gloves / mask / gown / drapes) as indicated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify relevant anatomical landmarks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use drugs as indicated to facilitate the procedure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perform the procedure in a manner which minimises the risks of complications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertake appropriate investigation to confirm correct placement of device or exclude complications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise and manage emergencies; seek assistance appropriately</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sterilise, clean or dispose of equipment appropriately</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attitudes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Considers patient comfort during procedures / investigations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates desire to minimise patient distress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes respect for patient privacy, dignity and confidentiality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports other staff in the correct use of devices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepts personal responsibility for the prevention of cross infection and self-infection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respiratory System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Administers oxygen using a variety of administration devices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Basic Science

Knowledge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Symptoms, signs and causes of acute airway insufficiency and indications for intervention</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of maintaining a clear airway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Respiratory physiology: gaseous exchange; pulmonary ventilation: volumes, flows, dead space; mechanics of ventilation: ventilation/perfusion abnormalities; control of breathing, acute and chronic ventilatory failure, effect of oxygen therapy; respiratory muscle oxygen consumption and work of breathing.

Indications, contraindications and complications of oxygen therapy

Environmental hazards associated with storage and use of oxygen; strategies to promote safety

Storage and use of oxygen, nitric oxide (NO), compressed air and helium, including use of gas cylinders

Use of pipeline gas and suction systems

Principles of nebulisers, pressure regulators, flowmeters, vaporizers and breathing systems

Indications for and operation of fixed and variable performance oxygen therapy equipment, humidification and nebulising devices

Indications for different modes of ventilation and operation of at least one positive pressure ventilator, one non-invasive ventilator, and a constant positive airway pressure (CPAP) device

Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3)

Indications for and complications of hyperbaric oxygenation

Skills

Check pipelines; check and change portable cylinders

Select appropriate equipment or device to deliver oxygen therapy

Recognise and institute appropriate oxygen therapy in the management of medical emergencies; seek assistance as appropriate

Support ventilation using bag and mask

5.2 Performs emergency airway management

Knowledge

Symptoms, signs and causes of acute airway insufficiency and indications for intervention

Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3)

Methods of maintaining a clear airway

Indications, selection and insertion of oral (Guedel) airways, nasopharyngeal airways and laryngeal mask airways (LMA)

Tracheal intubation: selection of tube type, diameter and length; indications and techniques; methods to confirm correct placement of a tracheal tube

Bronchoscopic appearance of the upper and lower airways

Appropriate use of drugs to facilitate airway control

Monitoring during sedation/induction of anaesthesia for endotracheal intubation

Cricoid pressure: indications and safe provision

Principles of endotracheal suctioning (see 5.5)

Select appropriate tracheal tube type, size and length

Management of difficult or failed airway (see 5.4)

Airway management in special circumstances including but not limited to: head injury, full stomach, upper airway obstruction, shock, cervical spine injury, laryngectomy

Appropriate use of double lumen endotracheal tube for one lung isolation / ventilation

Skills

Choose a safe environment to undertake airway management (or optimise environment as circumstances allow)

Accurately assess the airway for potential difficulties with airway management

Optimise the patient’s position for airway management

Maintain a clear airway using oral / nasal airways

Support ventilation using bag and mask

Insert and check correct placement of laryngeal mask airway

Select appropriate tracheal tube type, size and length

Perform intubation and verify correct placement of tube

Manage and minimise cardiovascular and respiratory changes during and after intubation

Demonstrate rapid sequence induction of anaesthesia / cricoid pressure

Apply an end-tidal CO₂ detector post-intubation and interpret a capnograph trace

Prepare the patient for and perform extubation

Change an orotracheal tube

Management of complications of tracheostomy including but not limited to: blockage, displacement

Demonstrate correct placement of double lumen endotracheal tube
### 5.3 Performs difficult and failed airway management according to local protocols

**Knowledge**
- Airway management in special circumstances, (head injury, full stomach, upper airway obstruction, shock, cervical spine injury)
- Bronchoscopic appearance of the upper and lower airways
- Management of difficult intubation and failed intubation (local algorithm or protocol)
- Indications and methods of securing an emergency surgical airway
- Anatomical landmarks for cricothyrotomy/tracheostomy/mini-tracheotomy
- Indications and techniques for needle and surgical crycothyroidotomy
- Indications and contraindications to tracheostomy (percutaneous and surgical) and minitracheostomy

**Skills**
- Accurately assess the airway for potential difficulties with airway management
- Optimise the patient’s position for airway management
- Maintain a clear airway using oral / nasal airways
- Support ventilation using bag and mask
- Principles of oxygen therapy and use of oxygen administration devices (see 5.1)
- Appropriate use of drugs to facilitate airway control
- Prepare equipment for difficult or failed intubation
- Demonstrate failed intubation drill (according to local algorithm or protocol)
- Demonstrate minitracheotomy or needle crico-thyroidotomy

### 5.4 Performs endotracheal suction

**Knowledge**
- Symptoms, signs and causes of acute airway insufficiency and indications for intervention
- Methods of maintaining a clear airway
- Principles of endotracheal suctioning
- Consequences of the procedure during ventilation
- Bronchoscopic appearance of the upper and lower airways

**Skills**
- Perform endotracheal suction (via oral / nasal / tracheostomy tube)

### 5.5 Performs fibreoptic bronchoscopy and BAL in the intubated patient

**Knowledge**
- Symptoms, signs and causes of acute airway insufficiency and indications for intervention
- Bronchoscopic appearance of the upper and lower airways
- Method of bronchoscopy via an endotracheal tube
- Methods of broncho-alveolar lavage (BAL) in an intubated patient
- Detection and management of haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension)
- Safety and maintenance of flexible fibreoptic endoscopes

**Skills**
- Undertake bronchoscopy to assess tube position including double lumen endotracheal tube
- Undertake therapeutic bronchoscopy for sputum clearance

### 5.6 Performs percutaneous tracheostomy

**Knowledge**
- Indications and contraindications to tracheostomy (percutaneous and surgical) and minitracheostomy
- Causes of regurgitation and vomiting; prevention and management of pulmonary aspiration
- Anatomical landmarks for cricothyrotomy/tracheostomy/mini-tracheotomy
- Techniques for percutaneous and surgical tracheotony

**Skills**
- Identify patients requiring tracheostomy; discuss indications and contraindications for percutaneous tracheostomy
- Manage and minimise cardiovascular and respiratory changes during and after intubation
- Select appropriate tracheal tube type, size and length
Perform percutaneous tracheostomy
Manage and minimise cardiovascular and respiratory changes during and after intubation under direct supervision
Change a tracheostomy tube electively
Manage anaesthesia and control the airway during planned tracheostomy tube insertion in the intensive care unit (ICU)

5.7 **Performs chest drain insertion**

**Knowledge**
- Detection and management of haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension)
- Anatomical landmarks for intrapleural drains
- Insertion and management of chest drains and air exclusion devices
- Patient groups at risk who may require chest drain placement under ultrasound or CT guidance
- Consequences of the procedure during ventilation

**Skills**
- Demonstrate emergency relief of tension pneumothorax
- Demonstrate aseptic insertion of an intrapleural chest drain and connection to a one-way seal device

### Cardiovascular System

5.8 **Performs arterial catheterisation**

**Knowledge**
- Principles of arterial catheterisation
- Surface anatomy: arteries of the arms and legs
- Allen’s test - application and limitations
- Ultrasound techniques for vascular localisation *(see 5.9)*
- Recognition and management of inadvertent intra-arterial injection of harmful substances

**Skills**
- Insert arterial catheters by different routes
- Minimise blood loss related to clinical investigations and procedures

5.9 **Describes ultrasound techniques for vascular localisation**

**Basic Science**

**Knowledge**
- Basic principles of ultrasound and the Doppler effect

**Surface anatomy:**
- structures in the antecubital fossa; large veins and anterior triangle of the neck; large veins of the leg and femoral triangle; arteries of the arms and legs
- Methods for securing vascular access rapidly
- Principles, routes and techniques of peripheral and central venous cannulation
- Principles of arterial catheterisation

5.10 **Performs central venous catheterisation**

**Knowledge**
- Surface anatomy: structures in the antecubital fossa; large veins and anterior triangle of the neck; large veins of the leg and femoral triangle
- Principles, routes and techniques of central venous cannulation
- Chest x-ray interpretation *(see 2.6)*
- Ultrasound techniques for vascular localisation *(see 5.9)*
- Methods for securing vascular access rapidly
- Detection and management of haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension)

**Skills**
- Insert central venous catheters by different routes
- Minimise blood loss related to clinical investigations and procedures
- Describe a method for tunnelled intravenous catheterisation(e.g. for parenteral nutrition)
### 5.11 Performs defibrillation and cardioversion

#### Knowledge
- Principles of ECG monitoring (heart rate, rhythm, conduction, ST segment change and QT interval) – indications, limitations and techniques. Advantages and disadvantages of different lead configurations
- Basic and complex cardiac arrhythmias - recognition and management (pharmacological and electrical)
- Treatment (algorithm) of patients in ventricular fibrillation (VF) and pulseless ventricular tachycardia (VT)
- Defibrillation: principles of monophasic and biphasic defibrillators; mechanism, indications, complications, modes and methods (manual and automated external defibrillators (AED))

**Electrical safety:** conditions which predispose to the occurrence of macro-shock / micro-shock; physical dangers of electrical currents; relevant standards regarding safe use of electricity in patient care; basic methods to reduce electrical hazards.

#### Skills
- Obtain and interpret data from ECG (3- and 12-lead)
- Use manual external defibrillators
- Use automated external defibrillators (AED)

### 5.12 Performs transthoracic cardiac pacing, describes transvenous

#### Knowledge
- Principles and techniques of cardiac pacing
- Principles of ECG monitoring (heart rate, rhythm, conduction, ST segment change and QT interval) – indications, limitations and techniques. Advantages and disadvantages of different lead configurations
- Basic and complex cardiac arrhythmias - recognition and management (pharmacological and electrical)
- Principles, routes and techniques of peripheral and central venous cannulation
- Surface anatomy: structures in the antecubital fossa; large veins and anterior triangle of the neck; large veins of the leg and femoral triangle
- Methods for securing vascular access rapidly
- Detection and acute management of cardiac tamponade
- Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3)
- Detection and management of haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension)
- Insertion and management of chest drains and air exclusion devices

#### Skills
- Describe insertion of a temporary pacing wire
- Demonstrate the use of transthoracic pacing
- Demonstrate emergency relief of tension pneumothorax
- Principles of defibrillation and cardioversion (see 5.11)
- Describe emergency percutaneous pericardial aspiration
- Establish and review pacing box settings

### 5.13 Describes how to perform pericardiocentesis

#### Knowledge
- Detection and acute management of cardiac tamponade
- Anatomical landmarks and technique for percutaneous pericardial aspiration
- Principles of ECG monitoring (heart rate, rhythm, conduction, ST segment change and QT interval) – indications, limitations and techniques. Advantages and disadvantages of different lead configurations
- Treatment (algorithm) of patients in ventricular fibrillation (VF) and pulseless ventricular tachycardia (VT)
- Principles of emergency airway management (see 5.3)
- Principles of defibrillation and cardioversion (see 5.11)

### 5.14 Demonstrates a method for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables

#### Knowledge
- Principles of haemodynamic monitoring - invasive and non invasive methods, indications and limitations, physiological
parameters and waveform interpretation

Zero and calibration techniques for invasive pressure monitoring

Invasive and non-invasive systems available for measuring cardiac output and derived haemodynamic variables, the principles involved and the type and site of placement of the monitoring device

Interpretation of, relationships between, sources of error and limitations of measured and derived cardiovascular variables including pressure, flow, volume and gas transport

Indications, limitations and complications of techniques of measurement of cardiac output (e.g. pulmonary artery catheter, oesophageal Doppler, PiCCO, LiDCO) and action to prevent them

**Skills**
- Obtain and interpret data from central venous catheters
- Prepare equipment for intravascular pressure monitoring
- Obtain and interpret data from a cardiac output measurement technique
- Measure and interpret haemodynamic variables (including derived variables)

### Central Nervous System

**5.15 Performs lumbar puncture (intradural / ‘spinal’) under supervision**

**Knowledge**
- Indications for and contraindications of lumbar puncture and CSF sampling; laboratory analysis of CSF samples

**Skills**
- Performs lumbar puncture
- Insert a lumbar drain for CSF drainage

**5.16 Manages the administration of analgesia via an epidural catheter**

**Basic Science**

**Knowledge**
- Indications, contraindications, methods and complications of epidural catheterisation
- Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, indications and complications of opiates and local anaesthetic agents
- Indications, contraindications and complications of epidural infusion / injection; principles of safe epidural drug administration
- Physiological effects of pain and anxiety
- Recognition and methods of assessment of pain
- Contraindications, methods and complications of epidural catheter removal

**Skills**
- Select an appropriate epidural infusion regimen and titrate safely
- Select and determine adequacy and route of administration of analgesia
- Manage an established epidural infusion
- Administer bolus analgesia via an epidural catheter
- Minimise complications associated with opioid and non-opioid analgesics

### Gastrointestinal System

**5.17 Performs abdominal paracentesis**

**Knowledge**
- Anatomy of the abdominal wall; landmarks for abdominal paracentesis and abdominal drainage catheters
- Indications, contraindications, complications and technique of abdominal paracentesis

**Skills**
- Insert an abdominal drain

**5.18 Describes Sengstaken tube (or equivalent) placement**

**Knowledge**
- Principles and techniques for insertion of gastro-oesophageal balloon tamponade tube (e.g. Sengstaken-Blakemore)
5.19 Performs nasogastric tube placement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principles of nasogastric cannulation in the intubated and non-intubated patient</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of regurgitation and vomiting; prevention and management of pulmonary aspiration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insert a nasogastric tube in an intubated and non-intubated patient</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Genitourinary System**

5.20 Performs urinary catheterisation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy of the genitourinary system and anatomical landmarks for suprapubic urinary catheters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urinary catheterisation techniques: transurethral and suprapubic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urinary catheterisation in pelvic trauma: indications, contraindications and techniques</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perform aseptic urinary catheterisation: male and female</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirm correct placement and exclude complications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Domain 6: Perioperative care

General Principles

Acutely ill patients may present with medical, or surgical problems, or both. The complications of critical illness do not respect speciality boundaries. Perioperative care requires multidisciplinary collaboration, and often provides opportunities for preventative intensive care.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Attention to physiological optimisation and monitoring
- Consider the surgical and anaesthetic procedure in relation to plan of management (including critical decision making, application of relevant protocols / guidelines / care bundles)
- Awareness of main acute complications and their prevention / management
- Attention to patient comfort
- Effective team-working: collaboration, communication and continuity of care
- Professional relationship with patient and relatives: communication; interpersonal skills.
- Appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)
- Attention to patient safety

Domain 6: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Manages the pre- and post-operative care of the high risk surgical patient</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Manages the care of the patient following cardiac surgery under supervision</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>Manages the care of the patient following craniotomy under supervision</td>
<td>C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>Manages the care of the patient following solid organ transplantation under supervision</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>Manages the pre- and post-operative care of the trauma patient under supervision</td>
<td>C, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 6: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all sections

Skills

Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role

Attitudes

Demonstrates desire to minimise patient distress

Attention to and control of pain

Consults, communicates and collaborates effectively with anaesthetist, surgeon, nursing staff, other professionals, patients and relatives where appropriate

Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manages the pre- and post-operative care of the high risk surgical patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factors determining perioperative risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance of preoperative health status on postoperative outcomes including cardiopulmonary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exercise testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for, and interpretation of pre-operative investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dangers of emergency anaesthesia and surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of gastric contents and volume depletion on perioperative risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthetic risk factors complicating recovery: suxamethonium apnoea, anaphylaxis, malignant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hyperpyrexia, difficult airway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perioperative implications of current drug therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consent and assent in the competent and non-competent patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implications for postoperative care of common acute and chronic medical conditions (see 3.1 and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implications of type of anaesthesia (general/regional/local) for perioperative care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implications of type / site of surgery for postoperative management and potential complications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>within the first 24 hours of surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications and choice of agent for antibiotic prophylaxis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications for and methods of perioperative anti-thrombotic treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition, assessment and management of acute pain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triggered reevaluation of the patient if pain worsens days after surgery eg anastomotic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dehiscence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment and management of commonly encountered perioperative conditions and complications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>including: Respiratory:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation of symptoms and signs of respiratory insufficiency in the surgical patient;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the unprotected airway; upper and lower airway obstruction including laryngeal trauma and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oedema; pneumonia, collapse or consolidation, pulmonary infiltrates including acute lung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>injury (ALI) and the acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and their causative factors;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRALI; pulmonary oedema; pleural effusion, haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension); use of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chest drains; factors affecting patients following thoracotomy, lung resection, oesophagectomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and oro facial surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation of symptoms and signs of cardiovascular insufficiency in the surgical patient;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recognition of bleeding; management of hypo/hypertension; pulmonary embolus, operative risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>factors in patients with ischaemic heart disease, significant valvular disease, cardiac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tamponade; surgery for acquired and congenital cardiac disease; management of patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>following cardiac surgery (coronary grafting, valve replacement) and aortic surgery (arch,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thoracic, abdominal); heart and heart-lung transplantation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of perioperative oliguria and anuria; prevention and management of acute renal failure,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rhabdomyolysis; consequences of nephrectomy, ileal conduits; management post-re nal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transplantation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haematology and oncology:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of severe acute haemorrhage and blood transfusion; correction of coagulation disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and haemoglobinopathies,, care of the immunosuppressed or immunoincompetent patient, complications of chemotherapy and radiotherapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metabolic and hormonal:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perioperative management of patients with diabetes; blood glucose control; perioperative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>management of electrolyte disorders, hypo- and hyperadrenalism, surgery to thyroid, adrenal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and pituitary glands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation of abdominal pain and distension; peptic ulceration and upper GI haemorrhage;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diarrhoea, vomiting and ileus; peritonitis; intestinal ischaemia; perforation; abdominal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hypertension; pancreatitis; jaundice; cholecystitis; Management of the pre- and post-liver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transplant patient; perioperative nutrition; post-operative nausea and vomiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sepsis and Infection:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever and hypothermia; postoperative hypoperfusion and impaired oxygen delivery; wound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>infection; opportunistic and nosocomial infection; perioperative infection risk and prophylactic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>antibiotics; necrotising fasciitis; peritonitis; Clostridium difficile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Surgery: management of vascular skin grafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurological: causes of post-operative confusion and delirium, stroke (CVA), coma and raised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intracranial pressure; determinants of cerebral perfusion and oxygen delivery; prevention of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>secondary brain injury; perioperative management of patients with neuropathies and myo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pathies; intracranial pressure monitoring; extra-dural and sub-dural haematoma; intracerebral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haemorrhage; spinal cord injury and ischaemia; brachial plexus injury; complications of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>neuromuscular blockade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III - 51
**Musculo-skeletal:** principles and management of external fixators and casts; perioperative positioning; pressure area care; compartment syndromes and pressure monitoring; patients; on muscle relaxants; principles of salvage surgery

Methods of optimising high risk surgical patients: ERAS?

**Skills**

Consider the impact of long-term and chronic treatment on acute surgical care

Communicate the risk of surgery to patients and family

Accurately assess the airway for potential difficulties with airway management

Ensure the necessary resources are available for safe post-operative care

Identify pre-operative health status and intercurrent disease, medications, allergies and their interaction with the nature of anaesthetic and surgery

Obtain relevant information from the patient, relatives and other secondary sources

Interpret pre-operative investigations, intra-operative findings and events/complications, and respond to them appropriately

Assess conscious level and conduct a careful systems review

Optimise high-risk surgical patients before surgery: consider site of care and management plan

Select and determine adequacy and route of administration of analgesia

Document, monitor and manage fluid balance, circulating volume, drains, systemic oxygen supply

Establish a plan for postoperative management

Identify life-threatening cardiorespiratory complications; manage hypovolaemia and impaired oxygen delivery

Manage post-operative hypo and hypertension

Differentiate and manage tension pneumothorax, cardiac tamponade and pulmonary embolus

Manage post-operative stridor

Recognise and manage perioperative emergencies and seek assistance appropriately

---

**6.2 Manages the care of the patient following cardiac surgery under supervision**

**Knowledge**

Factors determining perioperative risk:

Importance of preoperative health status on postoperative outcomes

Indications for, and interpretation of pre-operative investigations

Dangers of emergency anaesthesia and surgery

Perioperative implications of current drug therapy

Implications for postoperative care of common acute and chronic medical conditions (see 3.1 and 3.2)

Implications of type of anaesthesia (general/regional/local) for perioperative care

Implications of type / site of surgery for postoperative management and potential complications within the first 24 hours of surgery

Recognition, assessment and management of acute pain

Indications for and methods of perioperative anti-thrombotic treatment

Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))

Assessment and management of commonly encountered perioperative conditions and complications including:

**Respiratory:**

Interpretation of symptoms and signs of respiratory insufficiency in the surgical patient; the unprotected airway; upper and lower airway obstruction including laryngeal trauma and oedema; pneumonia, collapse or consolidation, pulmonary infiltrates including acute lung injury (ALI) and the acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and their causative factors; TRALI; pulmonary oedema; pleural effusion, haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension); use of chest drains; factors affecting patients following thoracotomy, lung resection, oesophagectomy and oro facial surgery

Management of bronchopleural fistula; post insertion management of tracheal and bronchial stents

**Cardiovascular:**

Interpretation of symptoms and signs of cardiovascular insufficiency in the surgical patient; recognition of bleeding; management of hypo/hypertension; pulmonary embolus; cardiac tamponade; surgery for congenital and acquired cardiac disease; management of patients following cardiac surgery (coronary grafting, valve replacement) and aortic surgery (arch, thoracic, abdominal); heart; principles of cardiac pacing

Management of pulmonary hypertension

**Renal:** Causes of perioperative oliguria and anuria; prevention and management of acute renal failure

**Neurological:** stroke (CVA); causes of post-operative confusion.

**Gastrointestinal:** post-operative alterations in gut motility; perioperative nutrition; post-operative nausea and vomiting
### Haematology and oncology:
Management of severe acute haemorrhage and blood transfusion, principles of cell salvage; correction of coagulation disorders and haemoglobinopathies, care of the immunosuppressed or immunoincompetent patient, complications of chemotherapy and radiotherapy

Interprets thromboelastography in post cardiac surgical patients

### Metabolic & Hormonal:
Blood glucose control; perioperative management of electrolyte disorders

### Sepsis and Infection:
Fever and hypothermia; postoperative hypoperfusion and impaired oxygen delivery; wound infection; opportunistic and nosocomial infection; perioperative infection risk and prophylactic antibiotics; intestinal ischaemia; antibiotic selection and prescribing

Management of cyanosis, hypo- and hypertension, hypothermia and shivering

Surgical interventions in patients with cardiac disease, perioperative management of the cardiovascular surgery patient and potential complications occurring within 24 hours of cardiac surgery

### Skills
Consider the impact of long-term and chronic treatment on acute surgical care

Identify pre-operative health status and intercurrent disease, medications, allergies and their interaction with the nature of anaesthetic and surgery

Obtain relevant information from the patient, relatives and other secondary sources

Assess conscious level and conduct a careful systems review

Select and determine adequacy and route of administration of analgesia

Document, monitor and manage fluid balance, circulating volume, drains, systemic oxygen supply

Establish a plan for postoperative management

Identify life-threatening cardiorespiratory complications; manage hypovolaemia and impaired oxygen delivery

Differentiate and manage tension pneumothorax, cardiac tamponade and pulmonary embolus

Recognise and manage perioperative emergencies and seek assistance appropriately

Seek appropriate support and supervision in order to provide optimal patient care

Interpret pre-operative investigations, intra-operative findings and events/complications, and respond to them appropriately

Demonstrates management of intra-aortic balloon pump in surgical and non-surgical cardiac patients

---

### 6.3 Manages the care of the patient following craniotomy under supervision

#### Knowledge

Factors determining perioperative risk

Importance of preoperative health status on postoperative outcomes

Indications for, and interpretation of pre-operative investigations

Perioperative implications of current drug therapy

Implications for postoperative care of common acute and chronic medical conditions  *(see 3.1 and 3.2)*

Implications for type of anaesthesia (general/regional/local) for perioperative care

Recognition, assessment and management of acute pain

Indications for and methods of perioperative anti-thrombotic treatment

Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU – factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))

Major neurosurgical procedures, peri-operative management of the patient undergoing major neurosurgery, and potential complications occurring within 24 hours of surgery

Assessment and management of commonly encountered perioperative conditions and complications including:

- **Respiratory:** Interpretation of symptoms and signs of respiratory insufficiency in the surgical patient
- **Cardiovascular:** Interpretation of symptoms and signs of cardiovascular insufficiency in the surgical patient; management of hypo/hypertension
- **Renal:** Causes of perioperative oliguria and anuria; prevention and management of acute renal failure
- **Neurological:** causes of post-operative confusion, stroke (CVA), coma and raised intracranial pressure; determinants of cerebral perfusion and oxygenation; prevention of secondary brain injury; intracranial pressure monitoring; therapeutic correction of raised intracranial pressure; intracerebral haemorrhage, contusion and oedema
- **Gastrointestinal:** post-operative alterations in gut motility; perioperative nutrition; post-operative nausea & vomiting
- **Metabolic & Hormonal:** blood glucose control; perioperative management of electrolyte disorders
- **Sepsis and Infection:** fever and hypothermia; postoperative hypoperfusion and impaired oxygen delivery; wound infection; opportunistic and nosocomial infection; perioperative infection risk and prophylactic antibiotics; intestinal
### Skills

| Consider the impact of long-term and chronic treatment on acute surgical care |
| Identify pre-operative health status and intercurrent disease, medications, allergies and their interaction with the nature of anaesthetic and surgery |
| Obtain relevant information from the patient, relatives and other secondary sources |
| Assess conscious level and conduct a careful systems review |
| Select and determine adequacy and route of administration of analgesia |
| Document, monitor and manage fluid balance, circulating volume, drains, systemic oxygen supply |
| Establish a plan for postoperative management |
| Recognise and manage perioperative emergencies and seek assistance appropriately |
| Seek appropriate support and supervision in order to provide optimal patient care |
| Interpret pre-operative investigations, intra-operative findings and events/complications, and respond to them appropriately |
| Monitor and manipulate cerebral perfusion pressure (CPP) |

### Knowledge

| Manages the care of the patient following solid organ transplant under supervision |
| Factors determining perioperative risk |
| Importance of preoperative health status on postoperative outcomes |
| Indications for, and interpretation of pre-operative investigations |
| Perioperative implications of current drug therapy |
| Implications for postoperative care of common acute and chronic medical conditions (see 3.1 and 3.2) |
| Implications of type of anaesthesia (general/regional/local) for perioperative care |
| Solid organ-specific transplantation (heart-lung, liver, renal): peri-operative considerations, pharmacological management, post-operative care and potential complications |
| Immunosuppression and rejection |
| Implications of type / site of surgery for postoperative management and potential complications within the first 24 hours of surgery |
| Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU)) |
| Indications for and methods of perioperative anti-thrombotic treatment |
| Recognition, assessment and management of acute pain |
| Assessment and management of commonly encountered perioperative conditions and complications including: |
| **Respiratory:** Interpretation of symptoms and signs of respiratory insufficiency in the surgical patient; pneumonia, collapse or consolidation, pulmonary infiltrates including acute lung injury (ALI) and the acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and their causative factors; pulmonary oedema; pleural effusion, haemo/pneumothorax (simple and tension); use of chest drains; factors affecting patients following heart-lung transplantation. |
| **Cardiovascular:** Recognition of bleeding; interpretation of symptoms and signs of cardiovascular insufficiency in the surgical patient; management of hypo/hypertension; pulmonary embolus; management of patients following heart and heart-lung transplantation |
| **Renal:** Causes of perioperative oliguria and anuria; prevention and management of acute renal failure; management post-renal transplantation |
| **Neurological:** stroke (CVA); causes of post-operative confusion. |
| **Gastrointestinal:** post-operative alterations in gut motility; perioperative nutrition; post-operative nausea and vomiting; management of the post-liver transplant patient. |
| **Haematology and oncology:** Management of severe acute haemorrhage and blood transfusion, principles of cell salvage; correction of coagulation disorders and haemoglobinopathies. Care of the immunosuppressed or immunoincompetent patient complications of chemotherapy |
| **Metabolic & Hormonal:** blood glucose control; perioperative management of electrolyte disorders |
| **Sepsis and Infection:** fever and hypothermia; postoperative hypoperfusion and impaired oxygen delivery; wound infection; opportunistic and nosocomial infection; perioperative infection risk and prophylactic antibiotics; intestinal ischaemia; antibiotic selection and prescribing |

### Skills

| Consider the impact of long-term and chronic treatment on acute surgical care |
Interpret pre-operative investigations, intra-operative findings and events/complications, and respond to them appropriately.

Identify pre-operative health status and intercurrent disease, medications, allergies and their interaction with the nature of anaesthetic and surgery.

Obtain relevant information from the patient, relatives and other secondary sources.

Assess conscious level and conduct a careful systems review.

Select and determine adequacy and route of administration of analgesia.

Document, monitor and manage fluid balance, circulating volume, drains.

Establish a plan for postoperative management.

Review and monitor perioperative immunosuppressive therapy.

Identify life-threatening cardiorespiratory complications; manage hypovolaemia and impaired oxygen delivery.

Recognise and manage perioperative emergencies and seek assistance appropriately.

Seek appropriate support and supervision in order to provide optimal patient care.

6.5 Manages the pre- and post-operative care of the trauma patient under supervision

Knowledge

Factors determining perioperative risk

Importance of preoperative health status on postoperative outcomes

Indications for, and interpretation of pre-operative investigations

Dangers of emergency anaesthesia and surgery

Perioperative implications of current drug therapy

Consent and assent in the competent and non-competent patient

Implications for postoperative care of common acute and chronic medical conditions ([see 3.1 and 3.2])

Indications for and methods of perioperative anti-thrombotic treatment

Recognition, assessment and management of acute pain

Implications of type of anaesthesia (general/regional/local) for perioperative care

Implications of type / site of surgery for postoperative management and potential complications within the first 24 hours of surgery

Assessment and management of commonly encountered perioperative conditions & complications including:

**Respiratory:** Interpretation of symptoms and signs of respiratory insufficiency in the trauma patient; pneumonia, collapse or consolidation, pulmonary infiltrates including acute lung injury (ALI) and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and their causative factors; pulmonary contusion; pulmonary oedema; pleural effusion, haemo/pneumothorax (management of simple and tension); use of chest drains.

**Cardiovascular:** Interpretation of symptoms and signs of cardiovascular insufficiency in the trauma patient including cardiac contusion and tamponade; management of Renal: Causes of perioperative oliguria and anuria; rhabdomyelosis; prevention and management of acute renal failure

**Neurological:** causes of post-operative confusion, stroke (CVA), coma and raised intracranial pressure; determinants of cerebral perfusion and oxygenation; prevention of secondary brain injury; intracranial pressure monitoring; therapeutic correction of raised intracranial pressure; intracerebral haemorrhage, contusion and oedema

**Gastrointestinal:** Interpretation of abdominal pain and distension; intestinal ischaemia; abdominal hypertension; risk factors, monitoring and management of abdominal compartment syndrome; perioperative nutrition; post-operative nausea and vomiting

**Haematology:** management of severe acute haemorrhage and blood transfusion, principles of cell salvage; correction of coagulation disorders and haemoglobinopathies.

**Metabolic & Hormonal:** Blood glucose control; perioperative management of electrolyte disorders

**Sepsis and Infection:** fever and hypothermia; postoperative hypoperfusion and impaired oxygen delivery; wound infection; opportunistic and nosocomial infection; perioperative infection risk and prophylactic antibiotics; necrotising fasciitis; peritonitis; intestinal ischaemia; antibiotic selection and prescribing

Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))

**Musculo-skeletal:** principles and management of external fixators and casts; perioperative positioning; pressure area care; compartment syndromes; paralysed patients; principles of salvage surgery; management of vascular skin grafts

Skills

Consider the impact of long-term and chronic treatment on acute surgical care

Identify pre-operative health status and intercurrent disease, medications, allergies and their interaction with the nature of anaesthetic and surgery.
| Obtain relevant information from the patient, relatives and other secondary sources |
| Interpret pre-operative investigations, intra-operative findings and events/complications, and respond to them appropriately |
| Conduct a secondary survey following ATLS (or equivalent) principles |
| Communicate the risk of surgery to patients and family |
| Assess conscious level and conduct a careful systems review |
| Select & determine adequacy and route of administration of analgesia |
| Document, monitor and manage fluid balance, circulating volume, drains, systemic oxygen supply |
| Identify life-threatening cardiorespiratory complications; manage hypovolaemia and impaired oxygen delivery |
| Describe the risk period for use of depolarizing neuromuscular blocking agents in patients undergoing repeated surgical procedures |
| Seek appropriate support and supervision in order to provide optimal patient care |
| Establish a plan for postoperative management including plans for further surgery |
Domain 7: Comfort and recovery

General Principles

The compassionate care of patients and families is a fundamental duty of any clinician, which is given particular emphasis by the special circumstances of critical illness. The process of rehabilitation starts in intensive care and is continued for many months – sometimes years – following discharge from hospital. This journey to recovery requires attention to both the physical and the psychological consequences of critical illness.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Awareness of impact of ICU environment on patient and relatives
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills - patients, family and staff
- Attention to patient comfort (physical and psychosocial)
- Awareness of relevant applied physiology and pharmacology
- Consider indications, contraindications and complications of intervention - alternative modes, methods and techniques
- Clearly defined therapeutic strategy / care plan for immediate and longer term care
- Evaluation and modification of therapy according to clinical response
- Safe use of equipment / device / drugs
- Effective team-working: promote collaboration, communication and continuity of care
- Appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)
- Attention to patient safety

Domain 7: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>Identifies and attempts to minimise the physical and psychosocial</td>
<td>M, C, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>consequences of critical illness for patients and families</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>Manages the assessment, prevention and treatment of pain and delirium</td>
<td>D, I, C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>Manages sedation and neuromuscular blockade</td>
<td>D, I, C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>Communicates the continuing care requirements, including rehabilitation,</td>
<td>M, T, S, E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of patients at ICU discharge to health care professionals, patients and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>relatives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Manages the safe and timely discharge of patients from the ICU</td>
<td>M, T, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 7: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate effectively with relatives who may be, in denial, anxious, angry, confused, or litigious</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Attitudes
- Desire to minimise patient distress
- Regards each patient as an individual
- Establishes trusting relationships with and demonstrates compassionate care of patients and their relatives
- Willingness to communicate with and support families / significant others
- Respects the religious beliefs of the patient and offers to liaise with a religious representative if this is the wish of the patient or family
- Acknowledges the consequences of the language used to impart information
- Fosters effective communication and relationships with medical and nursing staff in other wards / departments
- Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)
- Recognises that intensive care is a continuum within the 'patient journey'
- Promotes appropriate and timely discharge from ICU
- Appreciates that physical and psychological consequences of critical illness can have a significant and long lasting effect for both patients and their relatives
- Early planning for rehabilitation
- Seeks to modify the stresses which the intensive care environment places upon patients, their relatives and members of staff

### 7.1 Identifies and attempts to minimise the physical and psychosocial consequences of critical illness for patients and families

#### Knowledge
- Common symptomatology following critical illness
- Causes and methods of minimising distress in patients
- The role of patient’s relatives and their contribution to care
- Physiological effects of pain and anxiety
- Stress responses
- Recognition and methods of assessment of pain
- Principles of acute pain management
- Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, indications and complications of commonly used analgesic, hypnotic, and neuromuscular blocking drugs in patients with normal and abnormal organ system function
- Sleep deprivation and its consequences
- Causes and management of acute confusional states
- Sensory deprivation / sensory overload
- Environmental and drug-related psychopathology associated with critical illness (e.g. anxiety, sleep disorders, hallucinations, drug withdrawal)
- Impact of staff-patient contact and environmental factors on patient stress
- Post-traumatic stress disorders
- Methods of communicating with patients who are unable to speak
- Relevance and methods to care for skin, mouth, eyes and bowels, and to maintain mobility and muscle strength in critically ill patients
- Fluid and caloric requirements in the critically ill patient including electrolytes, vitamins, trace elements and principles of immunonutrition
- Methods to assess nutritional status and basal energy expenditure
- Causes, prevention and management of critical illness polyneuropathy, motor neuropathy, and myopathy
- Consequences of immobilisation and mobilisation techniques (including disuse atrophy, foot-drop, ectopic calcification)
- Prevention and management of pressure sores
- Principles of rehabilitation: physical and psychological
- Resources available to patients and relatives for education and support (e.g. societies, local groups, publications, referral to allied health care professionals)
- Common risk factors for post-ICU mortality or re-admission and their minimisation
- Methods to minimise potential psychological trauma to the patient and their family of transfer from the ICU (especially with regard to long term ICU patients)
- The implications for relatives of adopting a role as a carer at home
- Impact of chronic illness post-ICU on socialisation and employment

#### Skills
- Identify complications associated with critical illness
Work with colleagues and relatives to minimise patient distress
Anticipate the development of pain and/or anxiety and adopt strategies for its prevention or minimisation
Use analgesic, hypnotic and neuromuscular blocking drugs appropriately and safely
Propose and implement a plan to provide adequate sleep and rest in ICU patients
Participate in the education of patients/families
Appropriate and timely referral to specialists / allied health professionals
Take decisions to admit, discharge or transfer patients
Follow-up patients after discharge to the ward
Participate in follow-up clinics / services where available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>67B</th>
<th>7.2 Manages the assessment, prevention and treatment of pain and delirium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological effects of pain and anxiety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stress responses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes and methods of minimising distress in patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition and methods of assessment of pain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of acute pain management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmakokinetics, pharmacodynamics, indications and complications of commonly used analgesic, hypnotic, and neuromuscular blocking drugs in patients with normal and abnormal organ system function</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indications, contra-indications, methods and complications of regional analgesia in critical illness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient-controlled analgesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and drug-related psychopathology associated with critical illness (e.g. anxiety, sleep disorders, hallucinations, drug withdrawal)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes and management of acute confusional states</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevance and methods to care for skin, mouth, eyes and bowels, and to maintain mobility and muscle strength in critically ill patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleep deprivation and its consequences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential long term consequences of acute delirium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skills</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anticipate the development of pain and/or anxiety and adopt strategies for its prevention or minimisation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpret data from scoring or scaling systems to assess pain and sedation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select and determine adequacy and route of administration of analgesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use analgesic, hypnotic and neuromuscular blocking drugs appropriately and safely</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimise complications associated with opioid and non-opioid analgesics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propose and implement a plan to provide adequate sleep and rest in ICU patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work with colleagues and relatives to minimise patient distress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>68B</th>
<th>7.3 Manages sedation and neuromuscular blockade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological effects of pain and anxiety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes and methods of minimising distress in patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stress responses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes and management of acute confusional states</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition and assessment of anxiety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and drug-related psychopathology associated with critical illness (e.g. anxiety, sleep disorders, hallucinations, drug withdrawal)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensory deprivation / sensory overload</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmakokinetics, pharmacodynamics, indications and complications of commonly used analgesic, hypnotic, and neuromuscular blocking drugs in patients with normal and abnormal organ system function</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of measuring depth of sedation; effects of over-sedation and strategies to avoid this; sedation holds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequences of immobilisation and mobilisation techniques (including disuse atrophy, foot-drop, ectopic calcification)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes, prevention and management of critical illness polyneuropathy, motor neuropathy, and myopathy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention and management of pressure sores</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleep deprivation and its consequences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-traumatic stress disorders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Skills

- Anticipate the development of pain and/or anxiety and adopt strategies for its prevention or minimisation
- Use analgesic, hypnotic and neuromuscular blocking drugs appropriately and safely
- Interpret data from scoring or scaling systems to assess pain and sedation
- Obtain and interpret data from a nerve stimulator to monitor the degree of neuromuscular blockade
- Identify complications associated with critical illness
- Propose and implement a plan to provide adequate sleep and rest in ICU patients
- Work with colleagues and relatives to minimise patient distress

### Knowledge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7.4</th>
<th>Communicates the continuing care requirements, including rehabilitation, of patients at ICU discharge to health care professionals, patients and relatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common symptomatology following critical illness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common risk factors for post-ICU mortality or re-admission and their minimisation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-traumatic stress disorders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and drug-related psychopathology associated with critical illness (e.g. anxiety, sleep disorders, hallucinations, drug withdrawal)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequences of immobilisation and mobilisation techniques (including disuse atrophy, foot-drop, ectopic calcification)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes, prevention and management of critical illness polyneuropathy, motor neuropathy, and myopathy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluid and caloric requirements in the critically ill patient including electrolytes, vitamins, trace elements and principles of immunonutrition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of rehabilitation: physical and psychological</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of communicating with patients who are unable to speak</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes and methods of minimising distress in patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resources available to patients and relatives for education and support (e.g. societies, local groups, publications, referral to allied health care professionals)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supportive services integral to the long term rehabilitation of critically ill patients (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, orthotics, social services).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The implications for relatives of adopting a role as a carer at home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of tracheostomy: care and avoidance of complications outside the ICU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persistent vegetative state; locked in syndromes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods to assess nutritional status and basic energy expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of chronic illness post-ICU on socialisation and employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods for assessing or measuring quality of life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods to minimise potential psychological trauma to the patient and their family of transfer from the ICU (especially with regard to long term ICU patients)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term ventilation outside the ICU environment (e.g. home ventilation)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Define the role of rehabilitation services and the multi-disciplinary team to facilitate long-term care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand the function of post ICU follow-up clinics, how they can be organised and what the risks/benefits are for these services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outline the concept of patient self-care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Know, understand and be able to compare medical and social models of disability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand the relationship between local health, educational and social service provision including the voluntary sector</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Skills

- Anticipate the development of pain and/or anxiety and adopt strategies for its prevention or minimisation
- Work with colleagues and relatives to minimise patient distress
- Appropriate and timely referral to specialists / allied health professionals
- Ensure effective information exchange before patient discharge from ICU
- Liaise with medical and nursing staff in other departments to ensure optimal communication and continuing care after ICU discharge
- Communicate effectively with relatives who may be anxious, angry, confused, or litigious
- Participate in the education of patients/families
- Follow-up patients after discharge to the ward
- Develop a self-management plan including investigation, treatments and requests/instructions to other healthcare professionals
professionals, in partnership with the patient
Support patients, parents and carers where relevant to comply with management plans
Promote and encourage involvement of patients in appropriate support networks, both to receive support and to give support to others
Recognise the impact of long term conditions on the patient, family and friends
Put patients in touch with the relevant agency including the voluntary sector from where they can procure the items as appropriate
Provide the relevant tools and devices when possible
Show willingness to facilitate access to the appropriate training and skills in order to develop the patient’s confidence and competence to self care
Manage follow-up effectively
Provide brief advice on use of alcohol and other drugs
Provide management and/or referral where appropriate

**Attitudes**

| Support patient self-management
| Recognise and respect the role of family, friends and carers in the management of the patient with a long term condition
| Recommend appropriate secondary prevention treatments and lifestyle changes on discharge

**7.5 Manages the safe and timely discharge of patients from the ICU**

**Knowledge**

| Common symptomatology following critical illness
| The role of patient’s relatives and their contribution to care
| Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU – factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency unit (HDU), intensive care unit (ICU))
| Common risk factors for post-ICU mortality or re-admission and their minimisation
| Management of tracheostomy: care and avoidance of complications outside the ICU
| Methods to minimise potential psychological trauma to the patient and their family of transfer from the ICU (especially with regard to long term ICU patients)
| Long-term ventilation outside the ICU environment (e.g. home ventilation)
| Potential psychological impact of inter-hospital transfer and family dislocation

**Skills**

| Anticipate the development of pain and/or anxiety and adopt strategies for its prevention or minimisation
| Work with colleagues and relatives to minimise patient distress
| Appropriate and timely referral to specialists / allied health professionals
| Ensure effective information exchange before patient discharge from ICU
| Liaise with medical and nursing staff in other departments to ensure optimal communication and continuing care after ICU discharge
| Identify discharge criteria for individual patients
| Take decisions to admit, discharge or transfer patients
| Follow-up patients after discharge to the ward
| Change a tracheostomy tube electively
| Identify discharge criteria for individual patients
Domain 8: End of life care

General Principles

Death is inevitably a managed, not a ‘natural’ process in intensive care. The manner in which it is conducted may affect the survivors – family and staff – for the rest of their lives. Treatment limitation or withdrawal does not mean denial of care; patients should not suffer, and, where possible, their wishes should be ascertained and respected.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Assessment of severity of illness and prognosis
- Awareness of relevant ethical / legal / religious / cultural issues
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills - patient / family / staff
- Effective team-working: promote collaboration, communication and continuity
- Effective, clear collaborative decision making resulting in an agreed plan of management
- Attempt to minimize distress - patient / family / staff
- Appropriate referral / consultation - in particular the importance of palliative care specialists
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)
- Attention to patient safety

Domain 8: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Manages the process of withholding or withdrawing treatment with the multidisciplinary team</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>1, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Discusses end of life care with patients and their families / surrogates</td>
<td>C, M, D, E</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>Manages palliative care of the critically ill patient</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>Performs brain-stem death testing</td>
<td>D, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>Manages the physiological support of the organ donor</td>
<td>I, C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>Manages donation following cardiac death</td>
<td>C, T, S, E</td>
<td>1 3 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 8: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies

Knowledge

Bereavement: anticipating and responding to grief
Define the standards of practice defined by the GMC when deciding to withhold or withdraw life-prolonging treatment
Know the role and legal standing of advance directives in different UK legislations
Outline the principles of the Mental Capacity Act (Adults with Incapacity Act in Scotland)

Skills

Communicate effectively with relatives who may be, in denial, anxious, angry, confused, or litigious

Attitudes

Appreciates that the decision to withhold or withdraw treatment does not imply the termination of care
Desire to support patient, family, and other staff members appropriately during treatment withdrawal

Establishes trusting relationships with and demonstrates compassionate care of patients and their relatives

Offers psychological, social and spiritual support to patients, their relatives or colleagues as required

Respects the expressed wishes of competent patients, even when in conflict with the views of the physician

Respects the ideas and beliefs of the patient and their family and their impact on decision making (does not impose own views)

Respects the religious beliefs of the patient and is willing to liaise with a religious representative if requested by patient or family

Willingness to communicate with and support families / significant others

Acknowledges the consequences of the language used to impart information

Integrity, honesty and respect for the truth underpin relationships with patients, relatives and colleagues

Values clear decision-making and communication

Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)

| 8.1 Manage the process of withholding or withdrawing treatment with the multidisciplinary team |
| Knowledge |
| Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice |
| Ethical and legal issues in decision-making for the incompetent patient: incapacity |
| Difference between euthanasia and allowing death to occur: doctrine of double effect |
| With-holding and withdrawing treatment: omission and commission |
| Decision-making processes for withholding and withdrawing life sustaining therapies including documentation and iterative review |
| The limitations of intensive care medicine – expectations of what can and cannot be achieved |
| Principles of delivering bad news to patients and families |
| Local resources available to support dying patients and their families, and how to access them |
| Cultural and religious practices of relevance when caring for dying patients and their families |
| Principles of pain and symptom management |
| Procedure for withdrawing treatment and support |
| Procedure for pronouncing life extinct and subsequently completion of death certification |
| Responsibilities in relation to legal authorities for certifying death (e.g. coroner, procurator fiscal or equivalent), and reasons for referral |
| The value of autopsy (post-mortem) examination. |
| Skills |
| Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile |
| Discuss end of life decisions with members of the health care team |
| Willing and able to communicate and discuss issues pertaining to end of life with patients and relatives |
| Discuss treatment options with a patient or relatives before ICU admission |
| Participate in timely discussion and regular review of ‘do not attempt resuscitation’ orders and treatment limitation decisions |
| Relieve distress in the dying patient |
| Withdraw life sustaining treatment or organ support |
| Aware of the emotional needs of self and others; seeks and offers support appropriately |

<p>| 8.2 Discusses end of life care with patients and their families / surrogates |
| Knowledge |
| Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice |
| Ethical and legal issues in decision-making for the incompetent patient: incapacity |
| Difference between euthanasia and allowing death to occur: doctrine of double effect |
| With-holding and withdrawing treatment: omission and commission |
| Decision-making processes for withholding and withdrawing life sustaining therapies including documentation and iterative review |
| The limitations of intensive care medicine - expectations of what can and cannot be achieved |
| Principles of delivering bad news to patients and families |
| Local resources available to support dying patients and their families, and how to access them |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bereavement: anticipating and responding to grief</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of pain and symptom management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural and religious practices of relevance when caring for dying patients and their families</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes and prognosis of vegetative states</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of brain stem death</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural and religious factors which may influence attitude to brain stem death and organ donation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsibilities in relation to legal authorities for certifying death (e.g. coroner, Procurator Fiscal or equivalent), and reasons for referral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedure for pronouncing life extinct and subsequent completion of death certification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The value of autopsy (post-mortem) examination.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willing and able to communicate and discuss issues pertaining to end of life with patients and relatives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discuss treatment options with a patient or relatives before ICU admission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiate competent from incompetent statements by patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in timely discussion and regular review of ‘do not attempt resuscitation’ orders and treatment limitation decisions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in discussions with relatives about treatment limitation or withdrawal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain the concept and practicalities of brain stem death and organ donation clearly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead a discussion about end of life goals, preferences and decisions with a patient and/or their relatives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain consent/assent for treatment, research, autopsy or organ donation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**8.3 Manages palliative care of the critically ill patient**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethical and legal issues in decision-making for the incompetent patient: incapacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference between euthanasia and allowing death to occur: doctrine of double effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of delivering bad news to patients and families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local resources available to support dying patients and their families, and how to access them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural and religious practices of relevance when caring for dying patients and their families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of pain and symptom management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willing and able to communicate and discuss issues pertaining to end of life with patients and relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discuss treatment options with a patient or relatives before ICU admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiate competent from incompetent statements by patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in timely discussion and regular review of ‘do not attempt resuscitation’ orders and treatment limitation decisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in discussions with relatives about treatment limitation or withdrawal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain the concept and practicalities of brain stem death and organ donation clearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead a discussion about end of life goals, preferences and decisions with a patient and/or their relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relieve distress in the dying patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of the emotional needs of self and others; seeks and offers support appropriately</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**8.4 Performs brain-stem death testing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of brain stem death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal aspects of brain stem death diagnosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied anatomy and physiology of the brain and nervous system including cerebral blood supply, base of skull, autonomic nervous system and cranial nerves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological changes associated with brain stem death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preconditions and exclusions for the diagnosis of brain stem death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical, imaging and electrophysiologic tests to diagnose brain death: applicability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural and religious factors which may influence attitude to brain stem death and organ donation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Responsibilities in relation to legal authorities for certifying death (e.g. coroner, procurator fiscal or equivalent), and reasons for referral

**Skills**
- Document pre-conditions and exclusions to brain stem death testing
- Consult and confirm findings of brain stem function tests with colleagues as required by local / national policy or as indicated
- Perform and document tests of brain stem function

---

### Manage the physiological support of the organ donor - Knowledge
- Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice
- Causes of brain stem death
- Role of national organ/tissue procurement authority and procedures for referral
- Responsibilities and activities of transplant co-ordinators
- Physiological changes associated with brain stem death
- Principles of management of the organ donor (according to national / local policy)
- Common investigations and procedures undertaken in the ICU prior to organ donation

**Skills**
- Explain the concept and practicalities of brain stem death and organ donation clearly
- Liaise with transplant co-ordinators (local organ donation authority) to plan management of the organ donor
- Monitor vital physiological functions as indicated
- Recognise and rapidly respond to adverse trends in monitored parameters
- Aware of the emotional needs of self and others; seeks and offers support appropriately
- Obtain consent/assent for treatment, research, autopsy or organ donation

---

### Manage donation following cardiac death - Knowledge
- Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice
- Common investigations and procedures undertaken in the ICU prior to organ donation
- Procedure for pronouncing life extinct and subsequent completion of death certification
- Responsibilities in relation to legal authorities for certifying death (e.g. Coroner, Procurator Fiscal or equivalent), and reasons for referral
- Legal and ethical framework for decision making
- Role of national organ/tissue procurement authority and procedures for referral
- Transplant team members and their roles
- Responsibilities and activities of transplant co-ordinators

**Skills**
- Recognise when treatment is unnecessary or futile
- Identify potential non heart beating donors
- Lead a discussion about end of life goals, preferences and decisions with a patient and/or their relatives
- Participate in discussions with relatives about treatment limitation or withdrawal
- Liaise with transplant co-ordinators (local organ donation authority) and retrieval teams to plan management of the organ donor
Domain 9: Paediatric care

General Principles

These competencies are those expected of a practitioner of adult intensive care medicine, not a paediatric intensivist or neonatologist. Adult intensivists may be called upon to provide immediate care for the acutely ill child while awaiting transfer to a paediatric centre.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Recognition of presenting signs and symptoms
- Identification and rapid response to life-threatening complications
- Awareness of patho-physiological differences between adult and child
- Prioritise investigations and monitoring – appropriate; timely
- Appropriate differential diagnosis
- Clear decision making and immediate management strategies (including application of relevant protocols / guidelines)
- Effective multidisciplinary team-working and leadership - clear communication and instructions
- Timely and appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others) – maintain patient safety

Domain 9: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>Describes the recognition of the acutely ill child and initial management of paediatric emergencies</td>
<td>I, C, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>Describes national legislation and guidelines relating to child protection and their relevance to critical care</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 9: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of occupational and environmental exposures, socio-economic factors, and life style factors on critical illness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attitudes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.1 Describes the recognition of the acutely ill child and initial management of paediatric emergencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Key stages of physical and psychological development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major anatomical and physiological differences between adults and children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathophysiology and principles of management of disorders which are life-threatening to paediatric patients (may include: acute respiratory failure, cardiac failure, trauma, severe infections including meningitis and epiglottitis,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Paediatric Management

- Intoxications, metabolic disorders, seizures, croup, diarrhoea
- Paediatric management of conditions common to both children and adults (e.g. acute severe asthma, renal failure, trauma)
- Paediatric resuscitation and the differences between adult and paediatric resuscitation
- Principles of paediatric airway management: methods and techniques; calculation of tube sizes; selection of masks and airways
- Principles of mechanical ventilation in a child
- Preparation for and methods of securing venous access
- Intraosseous cannulation
- Estimation of blood volume, replacement of fluid loss
- Paediatric dosing of common emergency drugs
- General principles for stabilising the critically ill or injured child until senior or more experienced help arrives
- Operation of local paediatric referral/retrieval services
- Principles of communication (verbal and non-verbal) with children of different ages; awareness of the consequences of the language used to impart information
- Issues of consent in children

### Skills

- Paediatric resuscitation at advanced life support level (APLS, PALS or equivalent)
- Prepare equipment and drugs for paediatric intubation
- Demonstrate paediatric tracheal intubation
- Secure venous access (including local anaesthesia pre-medication)
- Manage mechanical ventilation in a critically ill child
- Communicate effectively with, and attempt to reassure the child and parents
- Recognise and manage paediatric emergencies until senior or more experienced help arrives
- Manage and stabilise the injured child until senior or more experienced help arrives

### Knowledge

- Key stages of physical and psychological development
- Principles of communication (verbal and non-verbal) with children of different ages; awareness of the consequences of the language used to impart information
- Legal and ethical aspects of caring for children
- Issues of consent in children
- National child protection guidelines

9.2 Describes the national legislation and guidelines relating to child protection and their relevance to critical care
Domain 10: Transport

General Principles

Critically ill patients (adults or children) may require intra- or inter-hospital transfer for clinical reasons. The principles are the same for both circumstances. Competence in aero-medical transfers is not a specific requirement though they may be used for competence acquisition and assessment if local circumstances permit.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Considering alternative strategies to transfer
- Considering alternative modes and methods of transport
- Effective preparation: planning and communication tasks
- Attention to safety: anticipation and minimisation of risks; prevention of adverse events; safe use of equipment
- Maintaining effective monitoring during transportation
- Identification, prevention, and management of complications
- Continuation of care plans
- Effective hand-over and documentation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)

Domain 10: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>Undertakes transport of the mechanically ventilated critically ill patient outside the ICU</td>
<td>D, I, C, M</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 10: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies

Skills
Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role

Attitudes
Anticipates and prevents problems during transfer
Appreciates the importance of communication between referring, transporting and receiving staff
Desire to minimise patient distress
Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)

10.1  Undertakes the transport of the mechanically ventilated critically ill patient outside the ICU

Knowledge
Indications, risks and benefits of patient transfer (intra / inter hospital)
Criteria for admission to, and discharge from ICU - factors influencing intensity and site of care (ward, high dependency
Principles of safe patient transfer (before, during and after)

Ethical issues surrounding transfer

Strategies to avoid transfer-use of other facilities

Strategies to manage the unique problems associated with patient transfer - limitations of space, personnel, monitoring and equipment

Advantages and disadvantages of road ambulance, fixed and rotary wing aircraft including problems associated with altitude, noise, lighting conditions, vibration, acceleration and deceleration

Selection of mode of transport based upon clinical requirements, distance, vehicle availability and environmental conditions

Determination of required number of physicians / nurses / others during transfer and the role of paramedical personnel

Selection and operation of transport equipment: size, weight, portability, power supply/battery life, oxygen availability, durability and performance under conditions of transport

Principles of monitoring under transport conditions

Homeostatic interaction between patient and environment (e.g. thermoregulation, posture / positioning)

Communication prior to and during transport

Operation of locally available retrieval services

Physiology associated with air transport

Potential psychological impact of inter-hospital transfer and family dislocation

Skills

Take decisions to admit, discharge or transfer patients

Communicate with referring and receiving institutions and teams

Check transfer equipment and plan transfers with personnel prior to departure

Select appropriate staff based upon patient need

Prepare patients prior to transfer; anticipate and prevent complications during transfer - maintain patient safety at all times

Adapt and apply general retrieval principles where appropriate to pre-, intra-, and inter-hospital transportation.

Consider the need for and implements pre-transfer stabilisation before transfer

Undertake intra-hospital transfer of ventilated patients to theatre or for diagnostic procedures (e.g. CT)

Undertake inter-hospital transfers of patients with single or multiple organ failure

Maintain comprehensive documentation of the patient’s clinical condition before, during and after transport including relevant medical conditions, therapy delivered, environmental factors and logistical difficulties encountered

Determine when the patient’s needs exceed local resources or specialist expertise (requirement for transfer)
Domain 11: Patient safety and health systems management

General Principles

Error in healthcare often creates two victims – the patient, and the clinician who is usually the terminal component in an unsafe healthcare system. Creating safer systems may require changes in structures and resources, but always involves improvements in processes and organisation of care.

Features of competent performance may include:

- Professional approach - professional relationships and self governance
- Attention to sound decision making processes
- Attention to safety: identification and minimisation of risks; prevention / reporting of adverse events; safe use of equipment
- Attention to monitoring
- Appropriate prescribing and application of therapeutics
- Attention to communication and documentation tasks
- Development of collaborative care plans
- Effective multidisciplinary team-working and leadership – clear communication and promote continuity
- Timely and appropriate referral / consultation
- Recognition of limitations (self and others)

Domain 11: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>Leads a daily multidisciplinary ward round</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>Complies with local infection control measures</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>Identifies environmental hazards and promotes safety for patients and staff</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>Identifies and minimises risk of critical incidents and adverse events, including complications of critical illness</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>Organises a case conference</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>Critically appraises and applies guidelines, protocols and care bundles</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>Describes commonly used scoring systems for assessment of severity of illness, case mix and workload</td>
<td>C, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>Demonstrates an understanding of the managerial and administrative responsibilities of the ICM specialist</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 11: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose and process of quality improvement activities such as evidence based practice, best practice guidelines and benchmarking and change management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Understand:
- the factors involved in clinical decision making such as knowledge, experience, biases, emotions, uncertainty, context
- the critical relationship between CDM and patient safety
- the ways in which we process decision making: dual process theory: system 1 and system 2
- the place of algorithms, guidelines, protocols in supporting decision making and potential pitfalls in their use
- the pivotal decisions in diagnosis, differential diagnosis, handing over and receiving diagnoses and the need to review evidence for diagnosis at these times

Confidentiality and data protection - legal and ethical issues
Principles of risk prevention
Critical incident or error monitoring and reporting
Professional responsibility and duty of care to patients placed at risk by the actions of fellow clinicians
Methods of effective communication of information (written; verbal etc)
Electronic methods of accessing medical literature and learning modalities
Principles of aseptic technique and aseptic handling of invasive medical devices
Methods of sterilisation and cleaning or disposal of equipment
Universal precautions and preventative infection control techniques (hand washing, gloves, protective clothing, sharps disposal etc.)
Understand the role of Notification of diseases within the UK and identify the principle notifiable diseases for UK and international purposes
Define local and national ‘significant event reporting systems’ relevant to specialty
Keep abreast of national patient safety initiatives including NCEPOD / SASM reports, NICE and SIGN guidelines etc
Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing

**Skills**
Professional and reassuring approach - generates confidence and trust in patients and their relatives
Acquire, interpret, synthesise, record, and communicate (written and verbal) clinical information
Consults and takes into account the views of referring clinicians; promotes their participation in decision making where appropriate
Inform colleagues, patients and relatives as applicable, of medical errors or adverse events in an honest and appropriate manner
Manage inter-personal conflicts which arise between different sectors of the organisation, professionals, patients or relatives
Maximise safety in everyday practice
Document adverse incidents in a timely, detailed and appropriate manner
Collaborate with other team members to achieve common goals
Use electronic retrieval tools (e.g. PubMed) to access information from the medical and scientific literature
Demonstrate an interest in quality control, quality improvement and reflective practice
Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role
Demonstrate routine application of infection control practices to all patients, particularly hand washing between patient contacts
Use protective clothing (gloves / mask / gown / drapes) as indicated

**Attitudes**
Desire to minimise patient distress
Consults, communicates and collaborates effectively with patients, relatives and the health care team
Ensures effective information transfer
Adopts a problem solving approach
Enquiring mind, undertakes critical analysis of published literature
Recognises impaired performance (limitations) in self and colleagues and takes appropriate action
Act appropriately on any concerns about own or colleagues’ use of alcohol and/or other drugs.
Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)
Accepts responsibility for patient care and staff supervision
Establishes collaborative relations with other health care providers to promote continuity of patient care as appropriate
Seeks to modify the stresses which the intensive care environment places upon patients, their relatives and members of staff
### 11.1 Leads a daily multidisciplinary ward round

**Knowledge**
- Roles of different members of the multidisciplinary team and local referral practices
- Triage and management of competing priorities
- Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing

**Skills**
- Demonstrate initiative in problem solving
- Confirm accuracy of clinical information provided by members of the health care team with particular emphasis on that information which is handed over at admission and at shift changes
- Summarise a case history
- Assemble clinical and laboratory data, logically compare all potential solutions to the patient's problems, prioritise them and establish a clinical management plan
- Establish a management plan based on clinical and laboratory information
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Listen effectively
- Consider risk-benefit and cost-benefit of alternative drugs and therapies
- Organise multidisciplinary care for groups of patients in the ICU

### 11.2 Complies with local infection control measures

**Knowledge**
- Epidemiology and prevention of infection in the ICU
- Types of organisms – emergence of resistant strains, mode of transfer, opportunistic and nosocomial infections; difference between contamination, colonisation and infection
- Risk of colonisation with potentially pathogenic micro-organisms and the factors associated with patient, staff, equipment and environmental colonisation
- Recognition of patient groups at high risk of developing infectious complications
- Autogenous infection: routes and methods of prevention
- Cross infection: modes of transfer and common agents
- Ventilator associated pneumonia: definition, pathogenesis and prevention
- Requirements for microbiological surveillance and clinical sampling
- Benefits and risks of different prophylactic antibiotic regimens
- Local patterns of bacterial resistance and antibiotic policy
- Infections from contaminated blood / body fluids; strategy if contaminated (e.g. needle stick injury)
- Local policies and procedures relevant to practice
- Published standards of care at local, national and international level (including consensus statements and care bundles). Has a critical approach to bundles and their component parts.
- Understand the role of Notification of diseases within the UK and identify the principle notifiable diseases for UK and international purposes

**Skills**
- Accept personal responsibility for the prevention of cross infection and self-infection
- Apply methods to prevent autogenous infection (e.g. posture, mouth hygiene)
- Implement prophylactic regimens appropriately
- Prescribe antibiotics safely and appropriately

### 11.3 Identifies environmental hazards and promotes safety for patients and staff

**Basic Science**

**Knowledge**
- Physical requirements of ICU design
- Staff safety: susceptibility to harmful physical, chemical and infectious hazards in the ICU
- Environmental control of temperature, humidity, air changes and scavenging systems for waste gases and vapours
- Measurement of gas and vapour concentrations, (oxygen, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and volatile anaesthetic agents) - environmental safety
- Hazards associated with ionising radiation and methods to limit these in the ICU

**Electrical safety:** conditions which predispose to the occurrence of macro-shock / micro-shock; physical dangers of electrical currents; relevant standards regarding safe use of electricity in patient care; basic methods to reduce electrical
hazards.

**Equipment requirements and selection:** clinical need and priority; accuracy, reliability, safety and practical issues (ease of use, acceptance by staff)

**Local policies and procedures relevant to practice**

**Published standards of care at local, national and international level** (including consensus statements and care bundles)

Identification and critical appraisal of literature; integration of findings into local clinical practice

**Epidemiology and prevention of infection in the ICU**

Risk of colonisation with potentially pathogenic micro-organisms and the factors associated with patient, staff, equipment and environmental colonisation

Types of organisms – emergence of resistant strains, mode of transfer, opportunistic and nosocomial infections; difference between contamination, colonisation and infection

**Cross infection:** modes of transfer and common agents

Requirements for microbiological surveillance and clinical sampling

Infections from contaminated blood / body fluids; strategy if contaminated (e.g. needle stick injury)

Benefits and risks of different prophylactic antibiotic regimens

**Knowledge**

Outline human factors theory and understand its impact on safety

Understand root cause analysis

Understand significant event analysis

**Skills**

Seek expert help to ensure all equipment in the ICU conforms with and is maintained to the relevant safety standard

### 11.4 Identifies and minimises risk of critical incidents and adverse events, including complications of critical illness

**Knowledge**

Common sources of error and factors which contribute to critical incidents / adverse events (ICU environment, personnel, equipment, therapy and patient factors)

Pathogenesis, risk factors, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of complications of ICU management including:

- nosocomial infection
- ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP)
- ventilator associated lung injury - pulmonary barotrauma/volutrauma
- pulmonary oxygen toxicity
- thromboembolism (venous, arterial, pulmonary, intracardiac)
- stress ulceration
- pain
- malnutrition; refeeding syndromes
- critical illness poly-neuropathy, motor-neuropathy and myopathy

Modification of treatment or therapy to minimise the risk of complications and appropriate monitoring to allow early detection of complications

Recognition of patient groups at high risk for developing complications

Risk of bleeding: indications, contraindications, monitoring and complications of therapeutic anticoagulants

**Epidemiology and prevention of infection in the ICU**

Types of organisms - emergence of resistant strains, mode of transfer, opportunistic and nosocomial infections; difference between contamination, colonisation and infection

**Autogenous infection:** routes and methods of prevention

Local patterns of bacterial resistance and antibiotic policy

**Requirements for microbiological surveillance and clinical sampling**

Benefits and risks of different prophylactic antibiotic regimens

**Staff safety:** susceptibility to harmful physical, chemical and infectious hazards in the ICU; psychological?

Factors that determine the optimum staff establishment for specialist and junior medical staff, nurses and allied professional and non-clinical ICU staff

Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing

**Equipment requirements and selection:** clinical need and priority; accuracy, reliability, safety and practical issues (ease of use, acceptance by staff)

**Local process for ordering consumables and maintaining equipment**

**Local policies and procedures relevant to practice**
**Published standards of care at local, national and international level (including consensus statements and care bundles)**

**Purpose and methods of clinical audit (e.g. mortality reviews, complication rates, National Audits) and quality improvement**

**Plan of action / local procedures to be followed when a health care worker is noticed to be in distress, whether or not patients are considered to be at risk**

**Identification and critical appraisal of literature; integration of findings into local clinical practice**

**Skills**

- Assemble clinical and laboratory data, logically compare all potential solutions to the patient's problems, prioritise them and establish a clinical management plan
- Consider potential interactions when prescribing drugs and therapies
- Record relevant clinical information accurately
- Confirm accuracy of clinical information provided by members of the health care team
- Monitor complications of critical illness
- Accept personal responsibility for the prevention of cross infection and self-infection
- Aware of relevant guidelines and consensus statements and apply these effectively in every day practice under local conditions
- Implement and evaluate protocols and guidelines
- Participate in the processes of clinical audit, peer review and continuing medical education

### 11.5 Organises a case conference

**Knowledge**

- Roles of different members of the multidisciplinary team and local referral practices
- Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing

**Skills**

- Identify members of the health care team which require representation at a case conference
- Timely organisation – liaise with members of the health care team to identify a suitable time and place for a case conference to maximise attendance
- Identify necessary notes / investigations to support discussion during a case conference:
- Summarise a case history
- Discuss technical, cognitive, affective, contextual and non-technical factors in relation to the case in question
- Plan long-term multidisciplinary care for patients in the ICU

### 11.6 Critically appraises and applies guidelines, protocols and care bundles

**Knowledge**

- Purpose and process of quality improvement activities such as evidence based practice, best practice guidelines & benchmarking and change management
- Purpose and methods of clinical audit (e.g. mortality reviews, complication rates) and quality improvement
- Published standards of care at local, national and international level (including consensus statements and care bundles)
- Local policies and procedures relevant to practice
- Treatment algorithms for common medical emergencies
- Recent advances in medical research relevant to intensive care
- Identification and critical appraisal of literature; integration of findings into local clinical practice; critical appraisal of whether this evidence is relevant to this particular patient.
- Principles of appraisal of evidence: levels of evidence; interventions; diagnostic tests; prognosis; integrative literature (meta-analyses, practice guidelines, decision and economic analyses)
- Principles of applied research and epidemiology necessary to evaluate new guidelines / forms of therapy
- Research methods (see basic sciences)
- Statistical concepts (see basic sciences)

**Skills**

- Aware of relevant guidelines and consensus statements and apply these effectively in every day practice under local conditions
- Implement and evaluate protocols and guidelines
- Propose realistic initiatives / projects to promote improvement
- Use a systematic approach to locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies relevant to a patient’s health problem
Participate in the processes of clinical quality improvement, peer review and continuing medical education

Recognise the need for clinical audit and quality improvement activities to be non-threatening and non-punitive to individuals

Manage resistance to change in the ICU / hospital environment in order to optimize the outcome of a task

11.7 **Describes commonly used scoring systems for assessment of severity of illness, case mix and workload**

**Knowledge**

Principles of outcome prediction / prognostic indicators and treatment intensity scales; limitations of scoring systems in predicting individual patient outcome

Process and outcome measurement

Principles of general and organ-specific scoring systems and their usefulness in assessing likely outcome of an illness (e.g. Glasgow Coma Scale, APACHE II and III, PRISM, MEWS, organ system failure scores, injury severity scores)

Influence of injury or illness being considered on the validity of a scoring system as a predictor of likely outcome (e.g. Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) in head injury versus drug overdose)

One general method for measuring severity of illness (severity scoring systems)

Principles of case-mix adjustment

Principles of workforce planning

Factors that determine the optimum staff establishment for specialist and junior medical staff, nurses and allied professional and non-clinical ICU staff

11.8 **Demonstrates an understanding of the managerial and administrative responsibilities of the ICM specialist**

**Knowledge**

Principles of local / national health care provision; strategic planning of the ICU service (structure, function, financing) within the wider health care environment

The non-clinical role of the ICU specialist and how these activities contribute to the efficacy of the ICU, the profile of the ICU within the hospital and the quality of patient management

Principles of administration and management

Physical requirements of ICU design

Principles of resource management; ethics of resource allocation in the face of competing claims to care

Concept of risk : benefit ratio and cost effectiveness of therapies

Difference between absolute requirement and possible benefit when applying expensive technology to critically ill patients

Equipment requirements and selection: clinical need and priority; accuracy, reliability, safety and practical issues (ease of use, acceptance by staff)

Local process for ordering consumables and maintaining equipment

Principles of health economics, departmental budgeting, financial management and preparation of a business plan

Factors that determine the optimum staff establishment for specialist and junior medical staff, nurses and allied professional and non-clinical ICU staff

Principles of workforce planning

Practical application of equal opportunities legislation

Principles of national / local health care legislation applicable to ICM practice

Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing

Purpose and methods of clinical audit (e.g. mortality reviews, complication rates) and quality improvement

Recent advances in medical research relevant to intensive care

Identification and critical appraisal of literature; integration of findings into local clinical practice

Principles of appraisal of evidence: levels of evidence; interventions; diagnostic tests; prognosis; integrative literature (meta-analyses, practice guidelines, decision and economic analyses)

Local policies and procedures relevant to practice

Published standards of care at local, national and international level (including consensus statements and care bundles)

Understand the legislative framework within which healthcare is provided in the UK – in particular death certification and the role of the Coroner/Procurator Fiscal. child protection legislation; mental health legislation (including powers to detain a patient and giving emergency treatment against a patient’s will under common law); advanced directives and living Wills; withdrawing and withholding treatment; decisions regarding resuscitation of patients; surrogate decision making; organ donation and retention; communicable disease notification; medical risk and driving; Data Protection and
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freedom of Information Acts; provision of continuing care and community nursing care by a local authorities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skills</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribute to departmental / ICU activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propose realistic initiatives / projects to promote improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage resistance to change in the ICU / hospital environment in order to optimize the outcome of a task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect, acknowledge and encourage the work of others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Domain 12: Professionalism

General Principles

A professional is someone with special expertise who gains the privilege of self-regulation through vocation and service, high ethical standards, critical self-appraisal, and personal development. Professionalism includes the capacity for clinical judgement (the translation of data into knowledge and knowledge into appropriate actions). These distinguishing attitudes and behaviours can be evaluated in terms of communication skills, professional relationships, and personal governance (personal standards, self-development, insight and self-control).

Domain 12: Competencies

The competences which make up the syllabus for this domain are listed below, with mapping to possible assessment methods and Good Medical Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assessment methods</th>
<th>GMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>Communicates effectively with patients and relatives</td>
<td>D, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>Communicates effectively with members of the health care team</td>
<td>D, M, S, E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>Maintains accurate and legible records / documentation</td>
<td>D, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>Involves patients (or their surrogates if applicable) in decisions about care and treatment</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>Demonstrates respect of cultural and religious beliefs and an awareness of their impact on decision making</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>Respects privacy, dignity, confidentiality and legal constraints on the use of patient data</td>
<td>C, M, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>Collaborates and consults; promotes team-working</td>
<td>M, E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>Ensures continuity of care through effective hand-over of clinical information</td>
<td>C, M, T, S, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>Supports clinical staff outside the ICU to enable the delivery of effective care</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.10</td>
<td>Appropriately supervises</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.11</td>
<td>Takes responsibility for safe patient care</td>
<td>D, C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.12</td>
<td>Formulates clinical decisions with respect for ethical and legal principles</td>
<td>C, M, T, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.13</td>
<td>Seeks learning opportunities and integrates new knowledge into clinical practice</td>
<td>M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.14</td>
<td>Participates in multidisciplinary teaching</td>
<td>M, E</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.15</td>
<td>Participates in quality improvement under supervision</td>
<td>M, E</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domain 12: Syllabus

This is a detailed list of items which describe the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and attitudes which make up the above competences. These items are not intended to be assessed individually but only as part of an assessment of the relevant competence, and have therefore not been individually mapped.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes common to all competencies

Knowledge

- Methods of effective communication of information (written; verbal etc)
- Confidentiality and data protection - legal and ethical issues
- Outline and follow the guidance given by the GMC on confidentiality
- Purpose and process of quality improvement activities such as evidence based practice, best practice guidelines and
benchmarking and change management

Impact of occupational and environmental exposures, socio-economic factors, and life style factors on critical illness

Electronic methods of accessing medical literature

Aware that how bad news is delivered to a patient can affect them for the rest of their lives in terms of emotions, perception of the condition and their ability to cope. It also irretrievably affects the subsequent relationship with the patient

Aware that ‘breaking’ bad news can be extremely stressful for the professional involved

Understand the legislative framework within which healthcare is provided in the UK and/or devolved administrations, in particular – death certification and the role of the Coroner/Procurator Fiscal; child protection legislation; mental health legislation (including powers to detain a patient and giving emergency treatment against a patient’s will under common law); advanced directives and living Wills; withdrawing and withholding treatment; decisions regarding resuscitation of patients; surrogate decision making; organ donation and retention; communicable disease notification; medical risk and driving; Data Protection Act and Freedom of Information Act; provision of continuing care and community nursing care by a local authorities

Outline the relevance of professional bodies e.g. Royal Colleges, NHS MEE, GMC, Postgraduate Dean, BMA, specialist societies, medical defence societies etc

Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing

**Skills**

Acquire, interpret, synthesize, record, and communicate (written and verbal) clinical information

Professional and reassuring approach - generates confidence and trust in patients and their relatives

Communicate effectively with relatives who may be anxious, angry, confused, or litigious

In preparing to break bad news:

- Sets aside sufficient uninterrupted time
- Chooses an appropriate private environment and ensures that there will be no unplanned disturbances
- Has sufficient information regarding prognosis and treatment
- Ensures the individual has appropriate support if desired
- Structures the interview
- Is honest, factual, realistic and empathic
- Aware of relevant guidance documents

Collaborate with other team members to achieve common goals

Lead, delegate and supervise others appropriately according to experience and role

Participate appropriately in educational activities and teaching medical and non-medical members of the health care team

Manage inter-personal conflicts which arise between different sectors of the organisation, professionals, patients or relatives

Maximise safety in everyday practice in part by good quality decision making sustained by critical thinking, reflection and metacognition

Use electronic retrieval tools (e.g. PubMed) to access information from the medical and scientific literature

Consults, communicates and collaborates effectively with patients, relatives and the health care team

**Attitudes**

Acknowledges the consequences of the language used to impart information

Recognises that communication is a two-way process

Sensitive to the reactions and emotional needs of others

Remains calm in stressful or high pressure situations and adopts a timely, rational approach

Desire to minimise patient distress

Regards each patient as an individual

Establishes trusting relationships with and demonstrates compassionate care of patients and their relatives

Sensitive to patients' expectations and responses; considers their perspective in order to understand their conduct and attitudes

Respects the expressed wishes of competent patients, even when in conflict with the views of the physician

Respects the cultural and religious beliefs of the patient; demonstrate an awareness of their impact on decision making

Recognises and manages circumstances where personal prejudices or biases may affect behaviour, including cultural, financial and academic aspects skill

Promotes respect for patient privacy, dignity and confidentiality

Willingness to communicate with and support families / significant others

Integrity, honesty and respect for the truth underpin relationships with patients, relatives and colleagues

Approachable and accessible when on duty
Well-being of the patient takes precedence over the needs of society or research
Generates enthusiasm amongst others
Fosters effective communication and relationships with medical and nursing staff in other wards / departments
Participates in, and promotes continuing education of members of the multi-disciplinary health care team.
Contributes effectively to interdisciplinary team activities.
Accepts responsibility for patient care and staff supervision
Recognises impaired performance (limitations) in self and colleagues and takes appropriate action
Act appropriately on any concerns about own or colleagues’ use of alcohol and/or other drugs.
Takes responsibility for his/her personal physical and mental health, especially where impairment may affect patient care and professional conduct and seeks appropriate help if required
Recognises personal limitations, seeks and accepts assistance or supervision (knows how, when and who to ask)
Desire to contribute to the development of new knowledge
Enquiring mind, undertakes critical analysis of published literature
Adopts a problem solving approach
Recognises and uses teaching and learning opportunities arising from clinical experiences, including errors
Desire and willingness to share knowledge
Assesses, communicates with, and supports patients and families confronted with critical illness
Recognises personal strengths and limitations as a consultant to other specialists
Seeks to modify the stresses which the intensive care environment places upon patients, their relatives and members of staff
Seeks to recognise those changes in the specialty, medicine or society, which should modify their practice and adapt their skills accordingly.

**Communication**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12.1</th>
<th>Communicates effectively with patients and relatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>Communicates effectively with members of the health care team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>Maintains accurate and legible records / documentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Knowledge**

Consent and assent in the competent and non-competent patient

Principles of the guidance given by the GMC on consent, in particular:

- Understand that consent is a process that may culminate in, but is not limited to, the completion of a consent form
- Understand the particular importance of considering the patient's level of understanding and mental state (and also that of the relatives/carers where relevant) and how this may impair their capacity for informed consent

Principles of delivering bad news to patient families

Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing

Strategies to communicate to the general population critical care issues and their impact on the maintenance and improvement of health care.

**Skills**

Communicate with patients and relatives - give accurate information and re-iterate to ensure comprehension; clarify ambiguities

Discuss treatment options with a patient or relatives before ICU admission

Differentiate competent from incompetent statements by patients

Listen effectively

Use non-verbal communication appropriately

Use available opportunities and resources to assist in the development of personal communication skills

Communicate effectively with professional colleagues to obtain accurate information and plan care

Obtain consent/assent for treatment, research, autopsy or organ donation

Preparation of patient lists with clarification of problems and ongoing care plan

**Attitudes**

Communicate changes in priority to others

Work in a supportive, empathic and non-judgemental manner without collusion

Be confident and comfortable discussing alcohol and drug use with patients
**Professional relationships with patients and relatives**

| 12.4 | Involves patients (or their surrogates if applicable) in decisions about care and treatment |
| 12.5 | Demonstrates respect of cultural and religious beliefs and an awareness of their impact on decision making |
| 12.6 | Respects privacy, dignity, confidentiality and legal constraints on the use of patient data |

**Knowledge**
- Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice
- Consent and assent in the competent and non-competent patient
- Ethical and legal issues in decision-making for the incompetent patient
- Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing
- Principles of delivering bad news to patients and families
- Sources of information about different cultural and religious attitudes and beliefs to life-threatening illness and death available to health care professionals.

**Skills**
- Communicate with patients and relatives - give accurate information and reiterate to ensure comprehension; clarify ambiguities
- Involve patients in decisions about their care and treatment when appropriate
- Discuss treatment options with a patient or relatives before ICU admission
- Differentiate competent from incompetent statements by patients
- Obtain consent/assent for treatment, research, autopsy or organ donation
- Listen effectively

**Professional relationships with members of the healthcare team**

| 12.7 | Collaborates and consults; promotes team-working |
| 12.8 | Ensures continuity of care through effective hand-over of clinical information |
| 12.9 | Supports clinical staff outside the ICU to enable the delivery of effective care |
| 12.10 | Appropriately supervises, and delegates to others, the delivery of patient care |

**Knowledge**
- Management of information
- Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing
- Principles of professional appraisal and constructive feedback

**Skills**
- Act appropriately as a member or leader of the team (according to skills and experience)
- Communicate effectively with professional colleagues to obtain accurate information and plan care
- Consult and take into account the views of referring clinicians; promote their participation in decision making where appropriate
- Liaise with medical and nursing staff in other departments to ensure optimal communication and continuing care after ICU discharge
- Respect, acknowledge and encourage the work of others
- Contribute to professional meetings - understand their rules, structure and etiquette
- Listen effectively

**Self governance**

| 12.11 | Takes responsibility for safe patient care |
| 12.12 | Formulates clinical decisions with respect for ethical and legal principles |
| 12.13 | Seeks learning opportunities and integrates new knowledge into clinical practice |
| 12.14 | Participates in multidisciplinary teaching |
| 12.15 | Participates in quality improvement under supervision |

**Knowledge**
- Basic ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice
- Ethical and legal issues in decision-making for the incompetent patient
- Management of information
| Principles of crisis management, conflict resolution, negotiation and debriefing |
| Principles of professional appraisal and constructive feedback |
| Principles of adult education and factors that promote learning |
| Methods of quality improvement and translating findings into sustained change in practice |
| Use of information technology to optimize patient care and life-long learning |
| Identification and critical appraisal of literature; integration of findings into local clinical practice |
| Principles of appraisal of evidence: levels of evidence; interventions; diagnostic tests; prognosis; integrative literature (meta-analyses, practice guidelines, decision and economic analyses) |
| Principles of applied research and epidemiology necessary to evaluate new guidelines / forms of therapy |
| Principles of medical research: research questions; protocol design; power analysis, data collection, data analysis and interpretation of results; manuscript preparation and publication rules. |
| Ethical principles involved in conducting research (including subject protection, consent, confidentiality and competing interests) and national ethical approval processes |
| Ethical management of relationships with industry |
| Requirements of ICM training at local and national level |
| Understand that organisation is key to time management |
| Outline techniques for improving time management |

**Skills**

| Contribute to departmental / ICU activities |
| Participate in the processes of clinical audit, quality improvement, peer review and continuing medical education |
| Propose realistic initiatives / projects to promote improvement |
| Develop, implement and monitor a personal continuing education plan including maintenance of a professional portfolio |
| Use learning aids and resources to undertake self directed learning |
| Use a systematic approach to locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies relevant to a patient’s health problem and make an individual assessment of whether this evidence is relevant to this patient. |
| Demonstrate initiative in problem solving |
| Listen effectively |
| Attentive to detail, punctual, reliable, polite and helpful |
| Take decisions at a level commensurate with experience; accept the consequences of these decisions |
| Utilise personal resources effectively to balance patient care, learning needs, and outside activities. |
| Identify clinical and clerical tasks requiring attention or predicted to arise |
| Estimate the time likely to be required for essential tasks and plan accordingly |
| Group together tasks when this will be the most effective way of working |
| Recognise the most urgent / important tasks and ensure that they are managed expediently |
| Regularly review and re-prioritise personal and team work load |
| Organise and manage workload effectively |

**Attitudes**

| Ability to work flexibly and deal with tasks in an effective fashion |
| Recognise when you or others are falling behind and take steps to rectify the situation |
Basic Science competencies also appear within the relevant expanded Syllabus domains (see above). All Basic Science competencies can be tested within the FFICM examinations.

### Anatomy

**Respiratory system:**
- Mouth, nose, pharynx, larynx, trachea, main bronchi, segmental bronchi, structure of bronchial tree: differences in the child
- Airways and respiratory tract, blood supply, innervation and lymphatic drainage
- Pleura, mediastinum and its contents
- Lungs, lobes, microstructure of lungs
- Diaphragm, other muscles of respiration, innervations
- The thoracic inlet and 1st rib
- Interpretation of a chest x-ray

**Cardiovascular system:**
- Heart, chambers, conducting system, blood and nerve supply
- Congenital deviations from normal anatomy
- Pericardium
- Great vessels, main peripheral arteries and veins
- Foetal and materno-foetal circulation

**Nervous system:**
- Brain and its subdivisions
- Spinal cord, structure of spinal cord, major ascending and descending pathways
- Spinal meninges, subarachnoid and extradural space, contents of extradural space
- Cerebral blood supply
- CSF and its circulation
- Spinal nerves, dermatomes
- Brachial plexus, nerves of arm
- Intercostal nerves
- Nerves of abdominal wall
- Nerves of leg and foot
- Autonomic nervous system
- Sympathetic innervation, sympathetic chain, ganglia and plexuses
- Parasympathetic innervations
- Stellate ganglion
- Cranial nerves: base of skull: trigeminal ganglion
- Innervation of the larynx
- Eye and orbit

**Vertebral column:**
- Cervical, thoracic, and lumbar vertebrae
- Interpretation of cervical spinal imaging in trauma
- Sacrum, sacral hiatus
- Ligaments of vertebral column
- Surface anatomy of vertebral spaces, length of cord in child and adult

**Surface anatomy:**
- Structures in antecubital fossa
- Structures in axilla: identifying the brachial plexus
- Large veins and anterior triangle of neck
- Large veins of leg and femoral triangle
- Arteries of arm and leg
- Landmarks for tracheostomy, cricothyrotomy
- Abdominal wall (including the inguinal region): landmarks for suprapubic urinary and peritoneal lavage catheters
- Landmarks for intrapleural drains and emergency pleurocentesis
- Landmarks for pericardiocentesis

**Abdomen:**
- Gross anatomy of intra-abdominal organs
- Blood supply to abdominal organs and lower body
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Physiology &amp; Biochemistry</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation of the human body and homeostasis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variations with age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Function of cells; genes and their expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanisms of cellular and humoral defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell membrane characteristics; receptors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective mechanisms of the body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics &amp; disease processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biochemistry:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acid base balance and buffers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ions e.g. Na⁺, K⁺, Ca⁺⁺, Cl⁻, HCO₃⁻, Mg⁺⁺, PO₄⁻</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellular and intermediary metabolism; variations between organs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enzymes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Body fluids:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capillary dynamics and interstitial fluid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oncotic pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osmolarity: osmolality, partition of fluids across membranes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lymphatic system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special fluids: cerebrospinal, pleural, pericardial and peritoneal fluids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Haematology &amp; Immunology:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red blood cells: haemoglobin and its variants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemostasis and coagulation; pathological variations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White blood cells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflammation and its disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunity and allergy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Muscle:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action potential generation and its transmission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuromuscular junction and transmission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skeletal muscle contraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle wasting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smooth muscle contraction: sphincters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Heart &amp; Circulation:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac muscle contraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The cardiac cycle: pressure and volume relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhythmicity of the heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulation of cardiac function; general and cellular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of cardiac output (including the Starling relationship)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluid challenge and heart failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrocardiogram and arrhythmias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurological and humoral control of systemic blood pressures, blood volume and blood flow (at rest and during physiological disturbances e.g. exercise, haemorrhage and Valsalva manoeuvre)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peripheral circulation: capillaries, vascular endothelium and arteriolar smooth muscle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autoregulation and the effects of sepsis and the inflammatory response on the peripheral vasculature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characteristics of special circulations including: pulmonary, coronary, cerebral, renal, portal and foetal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Renal tract:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood flow, glomerular filtration and plasma clearance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubular function and urine formation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrine functions of kidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment of renal function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulation of fluid and electrolyte balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulation of acid-base balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micturition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathophysiology of acute renal failure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Respiration:**
Gaseous exchange: O2 and CO2 transport, hypoxia and hyper- and hypocapnia, hyper-and hypobaric pressures
Functions of haemoglobin in oxygen carriage and acid-base equilibrium
Pulmonary ventilation: volumes, flows, dead space
Effect of IPPV and PEEP on lungs and circulation
Mechanics of ventilation: ventilation/perfusion abnormalities
Control of breathing, acute and chronic ventilatory failure, effect of oxygen therapy
Non-respiratory functions of the lungs
Cardio-respiratory interactions in health & disease

**Nervous system:**
Functions of nerve cells: action potentials, conduction, synaptic mechanisms and transmitters
The brain: functional divisions
Intracranial pressure: cerebrospinal fluid, blood flow
Maintenance of posture
Autonomic nervous system: functions
Neurological reflexes
Motor function: spinal and peripheral
Senses: receptors, nociception, special senses
Pain: afferent nociceptive pathways, dorsal horn, peripheral and central mechanisms, neuromodulatory systems, supraspinal mechanisms, visceral pain, neuropathic pain, influence of therapy on nociceptive mechanisms
Spinal cord: anatomy and blood supply, effects of spinal cord section

**Liver:**
Functional anatomy and blood supply
Metabolic functions
Tests of function
Effects of alcohol and other drugs on the unborn child, children and families
Recommended limits on alcohol intake

**Gastrointestinal system:**
Gastric function; secretions, nausea and vomiting
Gut motility, sphincters and reflex control
Digestive functions and enzymes
Nutrition: calories, nutritional fuels and sources, trace elements, growth factors

**Metabolism & Nutrition:**
Nutrients: carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins, minerals and trace elements
Metabolic pathways, energy production and enzymes; metabolic rate
Hormonal control of metabolism: regulation of plasma glucose, response to trauma
Physiological alterations in starvation, obesity, exercise and the stress response
Body temperature and its regulation

**Endocrinology:**
Mechanisms of hormonal control: feedback mechanisms, effect on membrane and intracellular receptors
Central neuro-endocrine interactions
Adrenocortical hormones
Adrenal medulla: adrenaline (epinephrine) and noradrenaline (norepinephrine)
Pancreas: insulin, glucagon and exocrine function
Thyroid and parathyroid hormones and calcium homeostasis

**Pregnancy:**
Physiological changes associated with a normal pregnancy and delivery
Materno-foetal, foetal and neonatal circulation
Functions of the placenta: placental transfer
Foetus: changes at birth

**Pharmacology**

**Applied chemistry:**
Types of intermolecular bonds
Laws of diffusion. Diffusion of molecules through membranes
Solubility and partition coefficients
Ionization of drugs
Drug isomerism
Protein binding
Oxidation and reduction
Principles of pharmacology:
Dynamics of drug-receptor interaction
Agonists, antagonists, partial agonists, inverse agonists
Efficacy and potency. Tolerance
Receptor function and regulation
Metabolic pathways; enzymes; drug: enzyme interactions; Michaelis-Menten equation
Enzyme inducers and inhibitors
Mechanisms of drug action
Ion channels: types: relation to receptors. Gating mechanisms
Signal transduction: cell membrane/receptors/ion channels to intracellular molecular targets, second messengers
Action of gases and vapours
Osmotic effects. pH effects. Adsorption and chelation
Mechanisms of drug interactions
Inhibition and promotion of drug uptake. Competitive protein binding. Receptor inter-actions
Effects of metabolites and other degradation products.

Pharmacokinetics & Pharmacodynamics
Drug uptake from: gastrointestinal tract, lungs, nasal, transdermal, subcutaneous, IM, IV, epidural and intrathecal routes
Bioavailability
Factors determining the distribution of drugs: perfusion, molecular size, solubility, protein binding
The influence of drug formulation on disposition
Distribution of drugs to organs and tissues:
- Body compartments
- Influence of specialised membranes: tissue binding and solubility
- Materno-foetal distribution
- Distribution in CSF and extradural space
Modes of drug elimination:
- Direct excretion
- Metabolism in organs of excretion: phase I & II mechanisms
- Renal excretion and urinary pH
- Non-organ breakdown of drugs
Pharmacokinetic analysis:
- Concept of a pharmacokinetic compartment
- Apparent volume of distribution
- Orders of kinetics
- Clearance concepts applied to whole body and individual organs
- Simple 1 and 2 compartmental models: concepts of wash-in and washout curves
- Physiological models based on perfusion and partition coefficients
- Effect of organ blood flow: Fick principle
- Pharmacokinetic variation: influence of body size, sex, age, disease, pregnancy, anaesthesia, trauma, surgery, smoking, alcohol and other drugs
Effects of acute organ failure (liver, kidney) on drug elimination
Influence of renal replacement therapies on clearance of commonly used drugs
Pharmacodynamics: concentration-effect relationships: hysteresis
Pharmacogenetics: familial variation in drug response
Adverse reactions to drugs: hypersensitivity, allergy, anaphylaxis, anaphylactoid reactions
Addictive potential of alcohol and other drugs, including prescribed and over-the-counter medicines
### Systemic Pharmacology:
- Hypnotics, sedatives and intravenous anaesthetic agents
- Simple analgesics
- Opioids and other analgesics; Opioid antagonists
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
- Neuromuscular blocking agents (depolarising and non-depolarising) and anti-cholinesterases
- Drugs acting on the autonomic nervous system (including inotropes, vasodilators, vasoconstrictors, antiarrhythmics, diuretics)
- Drugs acting on the respiratory system (including respiratory stimulants and bronchodilators)
- Antihypertensives
- Anticonvulsants
- Anti-diabetic agents
- Diuretics
- Antibiotics
- Corticosteroids and other hormone preparations
- Antacids. Drugs influencing gastric secretion and motility
- Antiemetic agents
- Local anaesthetic agents
- Immunosuppressants
- Principles of therapy based on modulation of inflammatory mediators
  - Indications, actions and limitations
- Plasma volume expanders
- Antihistamines
- Antidepressants
- Anticoagulants
- Vitamins A-E, folate, B12

### Physics & Clinical Measurement

#### Mathematical concepts:
- Relationships and graphs
- Concepts of exponential functions and logarithms: wash-in and washout
- Basic measurement concepts: linearity, drift, hysteresis, signal: noise ratio, static and dynamic response
- SI units: fundamental and derived units
- Other systems of units where relevant to ICM (e.g. mmHg, bar, atmospheres)
- Simple mechanics: Mass, Force, Work and Power

#### Heat:
- Freezing point, melting point, latent heat
- Conduction, convection, radiation
- Mechanical equivalent of heat: laws of thermodynamics
- Measurement of temperature and humidity

#### Gases & Vapours:
- Absolute and relative pressure
- The gas laws; triple point; critical temperature and pressure
- Density and viscosity of gases
- Laminar and turbulent flow; Poiseuille's equation, the Bernoulli principle
- Vapour pressure: saturated vapour pressure
- Measurement of volume and flow in gases and liquids
- The pneumotachograph and other respirometers
- Principles of surface tension

#### Electricity & Magnetism:
- Basic concepts of electricity and magnetism
- Capacitance, inductance and impedance
- Amplifiers: bandwidth, filters
- Amplification of biological potentials: ECG, EMG, EEG
- Sources of electrical interference
- Processing, storage and display of physiological measurements
- Bridge circuits

#### Electrical safety:
- Principles of cardiac pacemakers and defibrillators
- Electrical hazards: causes and prevention
- Electrocuton, fires and explosions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diathermy and its safe use</th>
<th>Basic principles and safety of lasers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic principles of ultrasound and the Doppler effect</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pressure & Flow Monitoring:**
- Principles of pressure transducers
- Resonance and damping, frequency response
- Measurement and units of pressure
- Direct and indirect methods of blood pressure measurement; arterial curve analysis
- Principles of pulmonary artery and wedge pressure measurement
- Cardiac output: Fick principle, thermodilution

**Clinical measurement:**
- Measurement of gas and vapour concentrations, (oxygen, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and volatile anaesthetic agents)
  using infrared, paramagnetic, fuel cell, oxygen electrode and mass spectrometry methods
- Measurement of H+, pH, pCO2, pO2
- Measurement CO2 production/ oxygen consumption/ respiratory quotient
- Colligative properties: osmometry
- Simple tests of pulmonary function e.g. peak flow measurement, spirometry
- Capnography
- Pulse oximetry
- Measurement of neuromuscular blockade
- Measurement of pain

**Data collection:**
- Simple aspects of study design (research question, selection of the method of investigation, population, intervention, outcome measures)
- Power analysis
- Defining the outcome measures and the uncertainty of measuring them
- The basic concept of meta-analysis and evidence based medicine

**Descriptive statistics:**
- Types of data and their representation
- The normal distribution as an example of parametric distribution
- Indices of central tendency and variability

**Deductive & inferential statistics:**
- Simple probability theory and the relation to confidence intervals
- The null hypothesis
- Choice of simple statistical tests for different data types
- Type I and type II errors
- Inappropriate use of statistics