

Table 1: Essential Roles and Key Competencies of Specialist Physicians	
Roles	Key Competencies The specialist must be able to ...
Medical Expert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate diagnostic and therapeutic skills for ethical and effective patient care • access and apply relevant information to clinical practice • demonstrate effective consultation services with respect to patient care, education and legal opinions
Communicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establish therapeutic relationship with patients/families • obtain and synthesize relevant history from patients/families/communities • listen effectively • discuss appropriate information with patients/families and the health care team
Collaborator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consult effectively with other physicians and health care professionals • contribute effectively to other interdisciplinary team activities
Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • utilize resources effectively to balance patient care, learning needs, and outside activities • allocate finite health care resources wisely • work effectively and efficiently in a health care organization • utilize information technology to optimize patient care, life-long learning and other activities
Health Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify the important determinants of health affecting patients • contribute effectively to improved health of patients and communities • recognize and respond to those issues where advocacy is appropriate
Scholar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop, implement and monitor a personal continuing education strategy • critically appraise sources of medical information • facilitate learning of patients, housestaff/students and other health professionals • contribute to development of new knowledge
Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deliver highest quality care with integrity, honesty and compassion • exhibit appropriate personal and interpersonal professional behaviours • practise medicine ethically consistent with obligations of a physician