

## **V. SUMMARY – SPECIALTY-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES**

Resident education programs in all fields of medicine now are being challenged to develop innovative methods for confirming that trainees acquire both the requisite cognitive knowledge and technical skills appropriate for their discipline and the important personal attributes that will enable them to function effectively in a competitive, stressful, highly technical and rapidly changing environment. The goal of the residency training process is to produce a technically and intellectually competent physician who acts in a professional and ethical manner and consistently manifests compassion, sensitivity and integrity. The specialty-specific competencies required of the obstetrician-gynecologist are summarized as follows in the form of performance-based learning objectives.

### **A. Patient Care**

1. Perform a complete and accurate medical history and physical examination.
2. Make an informed diagnosis.
3. Make evidence-based treatment decisions.
4. Prescribe medications in a rational, thoughtful and safe manner.
5. Safely and correctly perform the diagnostic and surgical procedures unique to the discipline of obstetrics and gynecology.

### **B. Medical Knowledge**

1. Demonstrate a sound understanding of the basic science background of reproductive medicine and apply this knowledge to the clinical care of patients.
2. Demonstrate the ability to use the scientific method and the deductive-reasoning process.

### **C. Interpersonal Skills and Professional Communication**

1. Communicate effectively with other health care professionals.
2. Communicate with patients and their families in easily understood and culture-sensitive language.
3. Work effectively as both a member of a professional group and as a group leader.
4. Demonstrate the ability to serve as a consultant to other physicians and health care professionals.
5. Consistently demonstrate sensitivity to patients from different cultures.
6. Maintain comprehensive, timely and legible medical records.

### **D. Practice-based Learning and Improvement**

1. Describe the clinical and economic significance of outcomes research.
2. Describe methods for analyzing practice-based outcomes research.
3. Describe a systematic plan for reviewing practice patterns and insuring continuous improvement in patient care.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use information technology to improve the practitioner's fund of knowledge and technical skills and, ultimately, provide better care to patients.

#### **E. Systems-based Practice**

1. Describe the responsibility of the individual physician to the patient, the practice and the overall health care system.
2. Describe the concepts of *limitation of resources* and *rationing of care*.
3. Describe the concepts of *cost-containment* and *cost-effectiveness*.
4. Describe methods for ensuring that the practitioner and the practice group use scarce resources in a sound, thoughtful and cost-effective manner.