Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) at WVSOM: Fast Facts
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What are EPAs?

- **Entrustable**: acts that require trust – by colleagues, patients, public
- **Professional**: confined to occupations with extra-ordinary qualification and right
- **Activities**: tasks that must be done

EPAs ground competencies in daily practice

EPA Assessment

This new assessment aims to:

- Identify emerging abilities/competencies of individual learners at different stages of training and in different contexts
- Provide guidance to address identified gaps in progression
- Employ assessment that is better aligned with clinical practice

Coaching

With EPA assessment, the focus is on providing information to learners, documenting direct or indirect observation on a regular basis (in a way that is practical for the reality for you and your work team), and short focused feedback to coach them in using this information to continue to advance their skills.

You will complete brief records (through the EPA app) of the observed tasks (EPAs). The observations you make will be reviewed regularly (along with other reports) by WVSOM. WVSOM will monitor whether students can be “entrusted” with the EPA, progression through training, and gaps that may need to be addressed related to progression. This is meant to be FORMATIVE.

Competencies versus EPAs

One can possess competencies, not EPAs (tasks), EPAs include several competencies

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For more information, contact Dr. Machelle Linsenmeyer at 304-793-2871 or alinsenmeyer@osteo.wvsom.edu.
Additional Readings

ten Cate, O. et al., 2010. Medical competence: The interplay between individual ability and the health care environment. Medical Teacher, 32:669-675.