

**“Enhancing Interprofessional
Collaboration and Learning for
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

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Title	ADVANCING THE ASSESSMENT OF INTERNS COMPETENCIES IN SOUTH AFRICA
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Abstract N ^o	TUFH671
Content	<p>In South Africa medical graduates are required to complete a 2-year internship program which is structured to bring graduates closer to becoming registered as independent practitioners. The internship program has undergone various adjustments since its inception in 1950, the latest was at the start of 2020. The major change at this point was to extend a 3-month rotation in Family Medicine to 6 months. This is the longest rotation by 3-months, compared to the other disciplines that the interns rotate through. With this change more pressure was placed on the Family Medicine discipline to ensure competent doctors are prepared for independent practice. Aim: To define the Internship competencies needed to be obtained during the rotation in Family Medicine and to evaluate the extent to which the competencies have been achieved. Objectives: 1. A team of experts will develop the list of competencies based on the four domains of Primary Health Care (preventative, curative, rehabilitative and palliative care), as well as the agreed roles of the South African primary care doctor (competent clinician, capacity builder, critical thinker, community advocate, change agent, collaborator, and care for self), to add depth to these competencies. 2. The competencies will be piloted with a complete group of interns. 3. The finalized competencies will be used in a research study to evaluate the training program. To achieve the first objective, we would like to present the competencies prior to the pilot phase of this research, to get more consensus on the competencies.</p>