**SYSTEM: Gastrointestinal**  
**CONDITION: General foundational science**  
(BOLD content unlikely to be covered elsewhere in the curriculum)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Educational Objectives</th>
<th>Level of Mastery*</th>
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| **Anatomy**  
• Basic knowledge of the components of the GI system.  
• Normal defecation muscle function and pelvic muscle support | • Describe anatomy and neurology of gastrointestinal and colorectal system  
• Communicate the functional relationship of the musculoskeletal structures (abdominal wall and pelvic floor) to the GI and colorectal system | **M**  
**P** |
| **Physiology**  
• Normal transit and physiological function of GI and colorectal system.  
• Requisites for continence and subsequent injury and aging factors which can disturb function  
• Basic knowledge of the enteric nervous system | • Describe normal bowel function, peristalsis, continence, and elimination  
• Identify factors that contribute to bowel dysfunction-aging, injury and disease processes  
• Describe the mechanism of enteric nervous system and communication with other components of the nervous system (autonomic and somatic) | **P**  
**F** |
| **Pathophysiology**  
• Prevalence and incidence of colorectal dysfunction common to women. Conditions: cancer, Irritable bowel syndrome, functional bowel disorder  
• Diagnostic criteria associated with common bowel and colorectal conditions  
• Affective co-morbidities’ common to patients with GI system dysfunction | • Describe mechanisms where normal bowel function is disrupted and discuss mechanism related to constipation/ lack of elimination and the consequences to health  
• Discuss application of diagnostic criteria for bowel dysfunction and mechanism for loss of continence  
• Able to assess for affective status and other co-morbidities that impact GI system and overall health | **F** |
| **Exercise Science**  
• Impact of physiologic changes of exercise on bowel function | • Plan modifications to exercise interventions required by GI system dysfunction: altered caloric intake, posture or movement impact | **P** |
| **Pharmacology**  
• Medications commonly used to treat the GI system | • Describe potential physiologic impact of medications used to improve bowel function | **P** |

* F = Familiar; P= Proficient; M= Mastery