The Patients course is designed as a final integration of FOM 1 and 2 content supported by clinical problem solving in order to prepare students for success in the clinical clerkships and on Step 1 of the boards. The goal includes teaching students how clinicians use basic science content to problem-solve symptom-based, multisystem illness. The teaching style focuses on large-group, interactive, content-based methodology using NBME question format to integrate core pathophysiologic principles across the organ systems. Patients link closely to the OSD course through ‘Integrated Review Sessions’ which are Patients-style interactive large group sessions that follow each OSD organ system block to provide opportunities for consolidation of knowledge and skills. The Integrated Review Sessions utilize NBME-style questions and ExamSoft technology to create an interactive exercise.

After the completion of the course, the MS2 will be able to:

- Translate successfully the FOM curriculum into a useful and meaningful problem-solving set (Physician as a Scientist)
- Access and apply basic science knowledge to clinical scenarios (Physician as a Scientist)
- Demonstrate the ability to synthesize knowledge to clinical scenarios (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver)
- Apply pathophysiology principles to clinical presentation in preparation for the USMLE Step One exam (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver)
- Process and organize medical information from varied disciplines (Physician as a Scientist)
- Generate detailed differential diagnoses by narrowing broad differentials into cogent and practical clinical diagnoses (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver)
- Develop a strong foundation for ordering and interpreting tests to improve expertise in applying the clinical correlation to initiate disease-specific therapeutics (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver)
- Correlate between the pathophysiologic basis of disease processes and medical problem-solving which will facilitate a smooth transition into clinical clerkships (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver)

Student assessment is largely through a comprehensive NBME-style exam based on material covered throughout the course.

**Course leader**
Howard Sachs, MD