



General Goals for Students in the Clinical Year Curriculum (should follow a progression from “developing” to “competent” as compared to a newly graduated practicing, primary care physician assistant)

- Expand and develop medical fund of knowledge
- Correlate abnormal exam findings to a given disease process
- Obtain an appropriate complete or focused history and physical exam
- Generate a reasonable differential diagnosis leading to an appropriate diagnosis and treatment plan
- Develop an appropriately concise but complete oral case presentation
- Perform appropriate patient documentation
- Performs clinical procedures as appropriate
- Develop interpersonal skills and professionalism necessary to function as part of a medical team

Preceptor Responsibilities

The preceptor is an integral part of the teaching program. Preceptors will serve as role models for the student and, through guidance and teaching, will help the student perfect the above skills.

Preceptor responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Provide ongoing and timely feedback regarding clinical performance, knowledge base, and critical thinking skills.
- Supervise, demonstrate, teach, and observe the student’s clinical activities in order to aid in the development of clinical skills and ensure proper patient care
- Delegate to the student increasing levels of responsibility as appropriate to the student’s experience and expertise
- Audit and co-sign charts in order to evaluate the student’s ability to write appropriate and complete progress notes, histories, physical examinations, assessments, and treatment plans
- Complete and promptly return the evaluation forms provided by the program reflecting on student knowledge and skills as well as their improvement throughout the rotation
- Promptly notify the PA program of any circumstances that might interfere with the accomplishment of the above goals or diminish the overall training experience
- Maintain an ethical approach to the care of patients by serving as a role model for the student
- Promptly notify the PA program of any significant concerns about student deficiencies in knowledge, abilities, or professional behaviors

Orientation and Communicating Student Expectations

Early on in the clinical rotation, it is recommended that the preceptor and student formulate mutual goals in regards to what they hope to achieve during the rotation. The preceptor should also communicate his or her expectations of the student during the rotation. Expectations can include:

- Hours (36-70 hours per week)
- Interactions with office and professional staff
- General attendance
- Call schedules
- Overnight/weekend schedules
- Participation during rounds and conferences
- Expectations for clinical care, patient interaction, and procedures
- Oral presentations

- Written documentation
- Assignments
- Anything additional that the preceptor feels is necessary

Supervision of the PA Student

The preceptor must be available for supervision, consultation, and teaching, or designate an alternate preceptor. Although the supervising preceptor may not be with a student during every shift, it is important to clearly assign students to another MD, DO, PA, NP, or CNM who will serve as the student's preceptor for any given time interval. In the case where supervision is not available, students may be given an assignment or may spend time with ancillary staff (x-ray, lab, physical therapy, etc.), as these experiences can be very valuable. The preceptor should be aware of the student's assigned activities at all times.

We greatly appreciate your support of our program and our students,

The Clinical Training Team

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