Preceptor Tips and Tricks

Set expectations with students in the following areas:

1. **Daily routine**: office hours, call schedule, rounding, activities beyond patient care
2. **Office policies**: responsibility and time with patients, written or dictated chart notes
3. **Values**: patient and staff interactions
4. **Preceptor/student interactions**: how to present patients, when feedback will be given, precepting style
5. **Problems**: absentee policy, emergency contacts
6. **Rotation objectives**: based on opportunities available at practice

Adapted from: The Southern New Hampshire AHEC and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center faculty development program *Setting Expectations: An Educational Monograph For Community-Based Teachers*

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Hillside Belize

Lauren Trillo, MMS, PA-C

Each year, UW-Madison PA students participate in international healthcare opportunities. Our program currently has two opportunities available to PA students; one is a four-week elective rotation through Hillside Health Care International in Belize. All students who participate in this international rotation must complete a one-credit course on various international healthcare topics.

In the fall semester, students submit an application for the Hillside Belize elective rotation with preference going to those who participate in the Global Health Path of Distinction. Faculty and staff review the applications and a handful of students are selected each year.

Hillside provides free medical care to southern Belize. This includes a clinic near the Garifuna city of Punta Gorda as well as a daily mobile medical team that serves those who are unable to travel. Hillside provides consultations, family planning, medications, pap smears, and EKGs among others healthcare services.

This year we have three clinical year students going to Belize for their elective rotation from February 27, 2017 to March 24, 2017.

“Loved this rotation! Amazing to live, learn, and practice within another country and among other cultures.”
—Kay McMahon, Class of 2015

Visit us online at: www.fammed.wisc.edu/pa-program/preceptors/
Our students nominate the Preceptor of the Year at the end of their clinical year. The winner is notified and invited to graduation in May to receive his or her award.

Previous Preceptors of the Year have included:
- Brian Beardsley, PA-C (2016)
- Jeffrey White, DO (2015)
- James Sacquitne, PA-C (2014)

This is another way we say “thank you” for all your hard work and dedication to our students!

Preceptor Q&A

Dan Oryall, PA-C

Dan is a 2012 graduate from the UW Madison PA Program. After graduation, Dan joined SSM Health Dean Medical Group in the General Surgery department where he continues to practice as a surgical PA. During his free time, he is an avid triathlete.

Q: What does a typical day look like for a PA student on rotation with your general surgery group?

A: Students are expected to round in the morning at 7am on the patients they scrubbed into surgery on, write a note, come up with a care plan and discuss with either me or one of my partners. I then have my student spend the rest of the day assisting in the OR starting at 7:30/8am or going to clinic. They won’t be paired with me on the floor or in the OR all the time, but they will spend a majority of time with me initially.

Q: What expectations do you have for PA students on rotation with you?

A: For the first 1-2 weeks the student spends all of their time with me. During that time the student will see how my partners and I round on patients and we start the student off observing in the OR. For weeks 2-3 we will ask that they see some of the surgical patients, write a note and work with us to develop a care plan. During this time the student will be able to scrub and assist on some OR cases. For the last weeks of the rotation, I allow them to get involved in more complex cases. This is the time where we really let the student function with more autonomy. This includes opportunities to round on ICU patients and deal with complex medical issues. This will also be the time, if their skills are adequate, to first assist on cases.

Also, I expect the student to take call with me. Typically I stay in the hospital until about 5pm and if nothing is going on I go home. If not, we stay until the work is done. If we work late into the night I will typically give the student all or part of the next day off. While on call at the hospital the student would be able to help answer floor questions through the PA call phone, see new consults or ER admissions and write notes.

Feedback? Contact Lauren Trillo, MMS, PA-C @ (608) 263-5199 or ltrillo@wisc.edu