Students Slow Me Down!

How to incorporate a student into your busy practice.

Preceptors who responded to our 2016-2017 preceptor survey indicated ‘a lack of time’ as the number one barrier to taking student learners. It is common for preceptors to be concerned about the impact a student will have on their practice.

Ways you can maximize teaching in your busy practice include:

- Review the daily schedule and determine which patients your student will see
- Have staff ask the patient if they are OK if a student sees them first
- Double book visits — this allows you to see one or two quick visits while your student spends time with a more complex patient
- Schedule procedures for the end of the morning or afternoon and ask the student to gather all of the necessary supplies and set up while you catch up on seeing patients

References:

We Are Thankful

With the holiday season upon us we would like to extend a warm ‘thank you’ to all of our preceptors and share feedback from our students.

“Dr. Jarzemsky is a great preceptor. He is a very busy provider, but has managed to always make time for direct and effective feedback.”

“Dr. Capelli is extremely knowledgeable. He also is great at teaching and working through his logic. He lets his students take ownership of the patients.”

“Nikki (Flohr, PA-C) was all for growth and independence. She pushed me to learn dosages of antibiotics and expanded on my learning. She allowed me to give my opinion on what I would do with the presenting patient and gave me appropriate feedback on my choices. Really an awesome preceptor!”

“Dr. Lundberg was a great preceptor. He explained why he was doing what he was doing all the time. He would test me with board-type questions on a topic we were discussing. He also helped me explore other areas I was interested to see in the hospital.”

“Heidi (Hughes, PA-C) is amazing. She was everything I had hoped for in my first rotation. We talked through every patient, she lets me look at every lab, and we looked up a lot of things together. She was so patient. Future PA students would benefit from learning from her.”

“Dr. Broadhead was a wonderful preceptor. Very kind, understanding and flexible. He lets students get hands on quickly and was good about helping me improve my skills.”

“David (Kuphal, PA-C) is an unbelievable preceptor. He allows you to fail in order to learn. He has been wonderful to learn from and I hope he teaches throughout his career.”

“Dr. Michalak is a fabulous preceptor who is professional, compassionate, and down to earth. He was encouraging during my patient presentations, allowed me to see some challenging patients, and made me feel like part of the ‘team’ with every encounter. Excellent preceptor!”

How We Address Substance Abuse

All of our students are required to complete Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) training during their Family Medicine rotation. This is a course funded by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services focused on the delivery of early intervention and treatment services for those with risky or harmful alcohol or drug use. The course is structured with online modules and students practice their new skills with online standardized patients (SP) before a final ‘test out’ SP encounter. A large part of SBIRT training includes motivational interviewing which helps guide patients to making the behavioral change themselves.

“I think the most helpful part of SBIRT training was learning how to bring up the subject of substance abuse with a patient in a non-judgmental way and without putting them on the defensive.” - Kelly Skiles, PA Class of 2018

Students are encouraged to practice their new skills while on rotation so ask your student about SBIRT!

If you are interested in becoming a preceptor, please fill out our preceptor sign up form online at:
https://www.med.wisc.edu/education/physician-assistant-pa-program/preceptors/preceptor-signup-form/

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