LONGITUDINAL PRECEPTORSHIP
(MD006)

During the third year, students have the opportunity to explore primary care or specialty fields in greater depth with an emphasis on building clinical skills and understanding the practice rewards and demands of different specialties. The Preceptorship begins in September and continues throughout the remainder of the third year with a total of 16 sessions scheduled one half-day (1:30-5 pm) approximately twice per month. *(The Preceptorship schedule corresponds to each student’s Doctoring 3 schedule; the Preceptorship takes place each afternoon of the student’s scheduled Doctoring 3 morning session.)*

- At the mid-point of the third year (approximately February), the student may change Preceptors to explore another practice or specialty.
- Students in primary care specialties have the option of staying with the same Preceptor throughout the year, whereas those in unusual or high-demand specialties may be required to switch at mid-year.
- Students may participate in specialties that do not include experience in conducting histories and physical exams, such as Pathology, Radiology, or Psychiatry for no more than one semester.

OBJECTIVES

Improve history-taking, physical examination skills, assessment and approach to the management of common clinical problems encountered in the practice setting or field

- Accuracy in collecting the pertinent history
- Proficiency with the physical examination
- Ability to conduct a focused work-up
- Ability to present findings and assessments for discussion

Become familiar with the practical elements involved in clinical practice

- Qualities of clinical decision-making process
- Skills needed for successful patient care
- Rewards and demand of practice
- Breadth and diversity of professional opportunities within the specialty
- Types of notes and charts needed for competent care

FORMAT

The student is responsible for being on-site with his/her preceptor from 1:30 to 5:00 pm on all assigned Doctoring 3 days. The student is responsible for contacting the assigned preceptor prior to the first session to confirm the first date of attendance, introduce himself/herself, exchange e-mail addresses and phone numbers, and obtain directions to the site.

EVALUATION

The final evaluation for the Preceptorship will be based on three components:

1. Attendance at all of the Preceptor sessions or at designated make-ups.
2. Documentation that the student has been observed conducting an H&P on at least 1 occasion per semester, for purposes of providing feedback. *(Exception: one 8-week Preceptorship is allowed in areas such as Radiology, Pathology, or Psychiatry where H&P experience is not available; however, students are required to choose at least one other 8-week session in a specialty where student can be observed conducting an H&P on at least one occasion.)*
3. A passing grade for clinical performance from the Preceptor for each 8-session period, using the standard clinical performance rating form for the clerkships.

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