



## Continuity Preceptorship

The preceptorship is a critical component of medical student education. This half-day per week experience, beginning the second week of the MS I year, provides clinical context to increase the relevance of basic science content. The preceptorship allows students to learn and practice patient interaction skills, to enhance their self-directed learning, and to experience a variety of practice settings and physician role models.

### Preceptorship Objectives

- Demonstrate the relevance and application of basic science curriculum.
- Furnish opportunities to learn, apply, and practice clinical expertise.
- Provide feedback regarding patient interactions, knowledge, skills, and attitudes.
- Stimulate self-directed learning.
- Provide clinical role models and experiences in primary care environments.
- Allow for gradual advancement of the student's clinical responsibilities over time.

### Preceptor Requirements

- Preceptors are clinicians, committed to program goals and educational process.
- Preceptors understand and value curricular goals, including evaluating and providing feedback to students.
- Preceptors provide experience in ambulatory setting with a primary care focus.
- Preceptors, whether clinical or academic faculty, are acknowledged and rewarded for their contributions.
- Preceptors are involved in faculty development, with ongoing preceptor evaluation to assure a high quality experience for students.

### Preceptorship Structure

Each student will spend a minimum of three quarters working with either an Internal Medicine or a Family Medicine physician. The other three quarters, students may choose to work in up to three specialty areas. In order to gain a wide range of clinical experience, no more than one quarter will be spent working in any one specialty. Students will experience the breadth of clinical medicine, while integrating basic science principles.

Preceptorship assignments should be confirmed by students the first week of school (Sept. 1-5), and begin the following week. Weekly attendance continues until the week of GOSCE/Written Exams. Students are not required to attend preceptorships during PCM Exam weeks, Winter Holiday, or Spring Break. Students begin attending preceptorships during the first week of PCM classes during Winter and Spring. See below:

| 2009-10—Year 1 Preceptorship |                 | 2009-10—Year 2 Preceptorship |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Fall Quarter                 | Sept 7 - Nov 13 | Fall Quarter                 | Sept 7 - Nov 6  |
| Winter Quarter               | Nov 30 - Feb 19 | Winter Quarter               | Nov 16 - Feb 5  |
| Spring Quarter               | Mar 1 - May 28  | Spring Quarter               | Feb 15 - Apr 30 |

### Evaluation

Formative feedback is given to students at regular intervals, allowing for individual assessment and goal-setting. A summary evaluation will occur at the conclusion of each quarter which will make up 25% of each student's overall PCM course evaluation. As with all course components, students must achieve at least 5 pts in the preceptorship to achieve a satisfactory evaluation for the course.

### Placement Policy

We will attempt to respond to students' preceptorship placement requests whenever possible. **All special requests must be approved and cleared with the Preceptorship Coordinator, prior to contacting potential preceptors, and prior to the last class day of the preceding term.** You may expect the following each quarter:

- If you are matched with an internist or family physician, you will most likely **NOT** be switched at the quarter.
- If you are matched with a pediatrician or obstetrician, you **WILL** most likely be switched at the quarter.
- If you are matched with a sub-specialist, you **WILL** be switched at the quarter.
- Be prepared to plan for transportation arrangements, if necessary, as many placements are off campus.

**For Further Information, Requests, and Questions, please contact:**

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