

Title: APN CRITERIA FOR PRECEPTOR AND CLINICAL LEARNING
SITE SELECTION
Index #: 30-01.03
Division: CLINICAL PRACTICE POLICIES
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Policy Statement

The Advanced Practice Nursing (APN) program for ANP, FNP, GNP, PNP, and WHCNP degrees will use this site selection inventory as part of the standardized process for submitting application for new clinical learning sites.

Rationale for Decision

The primary care nurse practitioner faculty adopted the following criteria for selecting preceptors of graduate nursing students in the master's and post-master's program and selecting clinical learning sites. These criteria are consistent with the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties guidelines last published in 1995.

Procedures

The Faculty requesting a contract for a clinical site must complete this inventory and submit it as part of the required information to enact the contract.

The following criteria represent the standardized process for quality control when locating appropriate APN sites.

Clinical Preceptors

1. Possess formal education for professional practice
 - a. Master's prepared in nursing minimum OR
 - b. Physicians (MD or DO)
 - c. Physician assistants as qualified preceptors as well
2. Hold national certification in specialty [whether NP, PA or physician]
3. Have two years experience in practice (may have occurred at more than this current site)
4. Have a minimum of three months experience at current site (rationale: to "settle in" after changing sites so able to guide the student through the system)
5. Are recognized as providing good role model for students to emulate (e.g., peers recommend)
6. Have previous experience as preceptor (desired but not essential)
7. Desire to teach (motivated volunteers)
8. Have teaching experience (desired but not essential)
9. Are active in state nurse practitioner organization or other professional nursing organization (highly desired but not essential)
10. Attend a preceptor development/orientation session
11. Are graduates of the OHSU program (not essential)
12. Help provide diversity in ethnicity
13. Are qualified preceptors requested by a student because of the possibility of a job opportunity after graduation
14. Cannot be a work supervisor where the student is employed (school policy)

Criteria for Site Selection

The characteristics of the clinical learning sites selected vary by nurse practitioner specialty, by course as the course objectives vary and by academic term as the student progresses through the program.

1. Patient characteristics represent the appropriate population
 - a. across the lifespan for FNPs
 - b. adolescents thru adulthood for ANPs
 - c. infants thru adolescents for PNP
 - d. adolescents thru old age for ANP/GNPs
 - e. adolescents thru adulthood for ANP/WH certificate students
2. Patient characteristics represent diversity
 - a. Ethnicity
 - b. Education
 - c. Income
 - d. Insurance
3. Patient characteristics reflect objectives of the course
 - a. common disorders in primary care (variety)
 - b. concentrated experiences in specialty clinics such as dermatology, diabetes, breast clinic, eye clinic, OB/gyn clinic etc.
 - c. urgent care experiences
 - d. health promotion and screening (migrant physicals, Pediatric Roundup)
 - e. opportunity to observe and learn to perform procedures commonly needed in primary care settings (suturing, splinting, wound care, EKG, ear irrigation, cryotherapy, etc.)
4. Patient volume is adequate to ensure students have access to sufficient patients per day to acquire the skill needed to practice in a work environment upon graduation (what is considered “adequate” numbers of patients varies by population and type of patient problem with emphasis on increasing complexity of patients and volume each quarter and student logs are used to document patient volume and type each term)
5. Students’ requests for an experience with a special population because of their future career plans
6. Distance from OHSU campus is within 1-2 hrs driving time
7. Space is available for student (exam room, documentation)
8. Resources are available on site
 - a. Preceptor (required to sign all documentation and prescriptions)
 - b. Physician consultation available according to arrangements on site or by phone
 - c. Other disciplines available (not essential)
 - d. Lab and x-ray services available on site (not essential)
 - e. Medical records available (computer based records not essential)
 - f. Current medical references or computer links to Internet resources
 - g. Current patient education materials
9. Students may NOT be employed within the same unit of the agency in which they are being precepted

Reviewed by: _____
Marna Flaherty-Robb Date
Associate Dean for Practice Development and Integration

Policy approval: Kathleen Potempa, DNSc, RN, FAAN, Dean, School of Nursing Date