

Teaching in the Acute/Hospital Care Setting

A. Acute Care Specific Learning Objectives

Student Expectations:

- Practice obtaining a history and/or physical examination in 2 patients/session
- Receive direct observation and feedback from the preceptor and peers
- Discuss techniques of the history and physical immediately following the encounter
- Begin to utilize clinical reasoning skills
- Follow proper dress code
- Professionalism code

Preceptor Expectations:

- Arrange for a suitable patient(s) for the History and Physical in advance.
- Role-model doctor-patient communication
- Role-model the flow of the physical exam
- Demonstrate physical exam findings of different disease processes (ascites, asterisks, edema, etc.)
- Demonstrate clinical maneuvers
- Provide verbal feedback to the students
- Evaluate student professionalism at the end of the rotation

B. Acute Care Clinical Sessions

Session Overview (see session specific instructions for details)

LTC preceptors will be assigned 2 students for each session. The students are expected to work in pairs while interviewing and examining patients. However, it will be at the discretion of preceptors to assign patients individually or to the pair of students depending on setting, patient availability and other time constraints. Students are expected to interview and/or examine a minimum of 2 patients per clinical session. One student should conduct the history and the other the physical exam. These roles will alternate on consecutive patients. The student not directly interviewing should still take notes because all students will be expected to write and submit H&P write-ups to the electronic portfolio. The entire patient encounter should take no more than one hour. Preceptors should consider observing some portion of the student-patient interaction. This will provide the opportunity to assess the students' degree of comfort with patient interactions as well as their level of competence. Students may participate in any of the following activities based on the patient availability and preceptor's assessment of students' level of comfort and competence:

- Taking a focused/full history (interviewing a patient, family member or caregiver)
- Performing a focused/full examination
- Counseling a patient
- Assisting on a procedure

After the history and physical are complete, the group should meet to debrief the encounter. Particular attention should be given to techniques of interviewing and examination. The discussion may also begin to address the patient's problems, incorporating clinical reasoning skills.

1. Session Goals:

- Perform a focused/detailed history and/or physical examination in 1-2 patients
- Appreciate other goals of the history in addition to exploring the chief complaint.
- Receive direct observation and/or feedback on the history and physical exam techniques from the preceptor and peer immediately following the encounter
- Begin to recognize disease processes and syndromes
- Begin to utilize clinical reasoning skills
- Practice oral patient presentations
- Write a full H&P and submit to the learning portfolio