

34 Ways Precepting a WWAMI RUOP Student Can Add Value to Your Practice

PATIENT VISITS – BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER

Before

1. Help with pre-visit planning, put in orders for preventive services where appropriate, pend orders for medication refills, determine what labs are needed, and call patients in advance of visits to discuss any pertinent issues.
2. Review chart and propose evidence based management (for example Do they need a mammogram? due for creatinine testing? why are they not on an ACE inhibitor? etc.)
3. Meet patients in the hospital prior to discharge (then see the patients during their outpatient visits post discharge).
4. Conduct concurrent visits with the preceptor (preceptor can complete one or more visits while student conducts basic components of another visit).
5. Provide common patient education (URI, constipation etc.).
6. Participate in goal setting in advance of patient visits (i.e., what will we ask and how?, and what is the anticipated outcome of the visit?).
7. Review social histories and participate in huddles in order to understand patients. The student will not only be more effective in the office but will also become a better doctor!
8. Write a brief summary of a hospital stay, specialty visit, or other outside communications, especially attending to any follow up labs, imaging or biopsy results, or medication changes.

During

9. Room patients (empower nursing staff to help educate students).
10. Help patients and families complete developmental screening questionnaires, school physical forms, etc.
11. Document care in EHRs.
 - Update problem lists and medication lists.
 - Write and pend orders and prescriptions.
 - Complete after-visit summaries and review them with patients.
 - Write encounter notes.
12. Perform medication reconciliation.
 - Discuss medication side effects with patients.
 - Assess for medication interactions.
13. Alert preceptor of any discrepancies
14. Give immunizations.
15. Draw blood.
16. Find and review quality patient education materials with patients.
17. Create collaborative care plans with patients.
18. Perform scribe functions.

After

19. Answer patient questions, and communicate lab results to patients.
20. Call patients several days after visits. This provides an opportunity for students to ensure patients understand and are adhering to their treatment plans.
21. Provide care coordination by accompanying patients to specialty care visits, the hospital, the pharmacy, and/or their homes (This is especially good for complex patients.).
22. Students can bring information back to the practice.
23. Make calls to coordinate specialty visits, social work assessments, and/or referrals to other resources.

MANAGING CARE AS PART OF THE TEAM:

24. Following a panel of patients during the rotation (and possibly transitioning the population to the next student).
25. Working with front desk staff, lab techs, nurses, social workers, care managers etc. Students do not need to be with physician preceptors throughout the day; others on the team have a lot to teach.
26. Setting aside time to perform pre-visit and after-visit care.
27. Proactively reaching out to patients who need care (patients who have gaps in care, such as high A1Cs and those who haven't received flu shots).
28. Helping teams meet quality metrics by working with patients and understanding how to document care in EHRs.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE TEAM AND ENHANCING CLINICAL SKILLS:

29. Creating patient handouts or EHR documents that list reliable patient education websites.
30. Bookmarking quality patient education sites on office computers or within the EHR.
31. Using sophisticated computer knowledge to help clinicians work more effectively with EHRs.
32. Answering clinical questions that arise during patient care and share answers with preceptor and the care team
33. Sharing information about high quality medical apps with preceptors and practice team.
34. Helping preceptors achieve Maintenance of Certification training (especially with MOC4 projects)

For more information contact:

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