

University of California San Diego
Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences

Acute Care Preceptors Conference

October 14, 2008

Meeting Notes

GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

- Establish forum to discuss acute care preceptor issues
- Create networking opportunity for acute care preceptors who precept UCSD students
- Establish groundwork for future acute care conferences

How Can We Go About Standardizing Our Elective Program?

- Goals & Objectives need to be the same for each site
- Sites can send their goals & objectives to SSPPS to assimilate
- Sites can insert 2-3 major SSPPS goals & objectives into their own documents, for example: 1) Must participate in direct patient care 2) Must participate in developing patient care plan.
- Sites can share their goals & objectives with other sites through something like WebCT
- Sites could look at other sites' course descriptions in the Guide to APPEs on the Student Website

Should We Require Certain Prerequisites to be Completed Before Allowing Students to Take Certain Acute Care Electives?

- Good idea, but implementation would be difficult logistically
- Important for students to complete inpatient rotations before they start shopping for residencies
- Sites get their new residents in the summer, which makes it difficult to offer full availability to students
- Students prefer heavy summer & fall availability, but sites prefer heavy winter & spring availability – due to new residents & vacations
- Prerequisites could be rotation-specific
- On preceptor availability form, add a checkbox question: Would you prefer students to complete an Acute Care rotation before this elective rotation?
- It would be helpful if P3's could be exposed more to the hospital setting, have a 4-week rotation in a hospital for example.
- In addition to Acute Care, some electives like Infectious Disease & Pharmacokinetics could suffice as prerequisites
- Potential problem: Availability – where are you going to put everyone if ½ the electives require other rotations first? Especially when sites juggle multiple schools & students

Absence Policy

- Current Absence Policy
 - Absences of >3 days require the repeating of one week of rotation.
 - Absences of > 5 days will require repeating the entire rotation. Students must realize that this will be done on a “space available” basis. Should space not be available, the completion of the student’s academic program may be delayed.
 - Conditions for excused absence. Students are encouraged to attend professional meetings and interviews required for residency application activities. It is the responsibility of the student to organize these dates in ways to minimize the impact on their educational experiences. Students are expected to work with their preceptor when planning/scheduling interview dates.
- Proposed New Absence Policy
 - Rotation time missed will need to be made up.
 - The preceptors' approval should be secured in advance if a student needs to be absent on a scheduled rotation day.
 - A plan should be put in place by the preceptor and student to complete the missed time.
- Some, if not most, sites are already doing this. (Kaiser, VA, Sharp Chula Vista, Scripps Mercy)
- Making up the time is under the discretion of the preceptor
- Students must treat rotations like a real job – time off needs to be arranged & approved by the preceptor.
- Absence Policy will be updated in the SSPPS syllabus

Future Topics for Acute Care Preceptors Conferences?

- Site availability: Handling the numbers of students coming through
 - Not enough computers
 - Not enough room
- Website
 - Preceptors would like access to all documents (SSPPS documents, other sites’ documents, etc.) on central website for reference.
 - WebCT could be used for this purpose. Can preceptors get access?
 - Lisa Avery will follow up.
- Orientations
 - Sites would like to know other sites’ orientation procedures
- Students coming to rotations better prepared – knowledge (basic drug info), competencies, therapeutics. Preceptors would like to know how students are prepped, what they’ve been exposed to and learned. Combination of knowledge & critical thinking skills seem to be lacking in many students.
 - On syllabi: State what students should know before beginning rotations. State what students have learned in preparation for the rotations. 3-5 bullet points of what students should be able to do, what was in lectures, what they learned
 - WebCT – sites to post their Goals & Objectives. Preceptors would like access to didactic lecture material to see what students should have learned, to eliminate the excuses “I didn’t learn that in lecture, it wasn’t taught to us”
- Preceptors would like contact information for all other sites & preceptors