Question of the Quarter

Can you explain your school’s APPE grading policies and guidelines, please?

Sure! Our students are evaluated in four distinct areas: Data Collection and Interpretive Skills, Drug Therapy Critique and Planning, Communication and Professional Behavior, and Performance in Clinical Setting.

Two formal evaluations occur during the 6-week experience—a formative evaluation at the end of week three and a summative evaluation at the end of week six. Each category receives a score ranging from 1 (severe deficit, automatically failing) to 5 (outstanding). A student has to minimally obtain an average of 3 across all categories. Anything less constitutes a failing performance.

Narrative comments should be consistent with numerical scoring (i.e., cannot receive a passing narrative with a failing numerical score). If a student is identified early on (pre-week three) as performing below expectations, please contact Dr. James Colbert. The OEE will work with you and the student to help the student meet expectations and pass the rotation. Our goal is to be your partner in education.

Preceptor Pointers

Shadi Vaccani
Kaiser Permanente
Precepts Ambulatory Care

Training: 2002-2006, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (yep, she’s one of ours!); 2006-2007, Ambulatory Care Residency at UCSD Medical Center

Specialty: Anticoagulation, Renal Transplant, MTM and Hospice

What are your best precepting tools and tips?
⇒ Add a little humor when appropriate.
⇒ Try to be interactive and mutually involved (you can always learn something new from the students!)
⇒ Earn your student’s trust and respect.
⇒ Always give constructive feedback.
⇒ Last but not least, put yourself in their shoes...after all, it wasn’t that long ago when you were a student, too!

CEO: Continuing Education Opportunities

* We are very pleased to announce that going forward, all of the following OEE conferences will offer CAPE Continuing Education credit: Preceptors Conferences, Acute Care Preceptors Conferences, Ambulatory Care Preceptors Conferences, Community Pharmacy Preceptors Conferences, and Precepting Skills Workshops

* Pharmacist’s Letter’s Preceptor Training & Resource Network, free online CE for SSPPS Preceptors:
  - Teaching Clinical Problem Solving, 7/28/2010
  - Handling Difficult Learning Situations, 8/10/2010

* UCSD Pharmacogenomics CE programs: Two available to pharmacists & physicians, [http://pharmacogenomics.ucsd.edu](http://pharmacogenomics.ucsd.edu)