Precepts: Ambulatory Care

Specialties: Anti-Coagulation and Nephrology

Where were you trained?
1981: UC Davis, BS, Animal Physiology
1983-1985: SDSU, secondary teaching credentials, Biology, Math, Physics, Chemistry
1985-1988: Ramona High School, Taught the Sciences
1990: Creighton University, Omaha, NE, BS, Pharmacy
1988-2001: Kaiser outpatient, Ambulatory Care

Precepting Tools & Tips: I love teaching anticoagulation monitoring. Just like my High School Science programs, our Anti-Coag rotation at Kaiser San Diego is very hands-on. After only a few days of didactic teaching, we have the interns on the phones calling patients. Initially, the other interns and I eavesdrop on the conversations. We start with easy situations and move on from there. If I am uncomfortable with the student’s plan, we discuss it and call the patient again with the new plan. As the interns get faster and more comfortable, we start working one-on-one with other pharmacists in the clinic. This exposes the interns to other providers’ styles of dosing and monitoring warfarin. The goal is for the intern to feel comfortable enough to develop his/her own style. We stress that the interns need to be able to defend their plans as backed by literature. The difficulty for those of us who are responsible for the outcome is approving of a plan that works, but is not exactly how we would do it. We try hard to avoid having the intern simply try to guess what his/her mentor would do. My goal is to have the intern capable of monitoring anti-coagulation independently by the end of the rotation.

In summary, my goal is to provide my interns with plenty of autonomy, but with enough supervision to ensure safety.

P.S. I also tend to have casual discussions about “life lessons” that are unrelated to Pharmacy. Past interns have expressed appreciation of this. Talking about hobbies, interests, philosophies, etc., makes us real people, not just another preceptor.

CEO: Continuing Education Opportunities

Preceptor Training & Resource Network, Pharmacist’s Letter
⇒ Free online CE for SSPPS Preceptors, Live and Self-Paced, such as “Precepting IPPEs”, “Precepting in the Community Pharmacy”, and “Precepting an Acute Care Experience”.
⇒ Resources such as PL Journal Club, Preceptor Toolbox, and Preceptors Interact UCSD Pharmacogenomics CE programs, for pharmacists & physicians

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