

Editorial

Dear Readers,

As you all know the role of preceptor is very important in Pharm.D course. I thought of sharing a couple of points about preceptorship so that it will help the young faculty to orient themselves to that. A preceptor is a teacher and mentor who guides students through their pharmacy practice course. Precepting is a rewarding experience, provided it is done as is.

A preceptor should have minimum of one year experience in clinical pharmacy practice. He/she should provide an orientation for the students to the practicing sites including schedules (days & hours), evaluation methods and overall responsibilities.

They should review the student's portfolio in order to tailor the activities based on their previous exposure, goals and expectations or areas of deficiency, identify and assign appropriate activities and projects that are in alignment with the objectives and competencies for the rotation to enhance student learning.

They should also monitor student's progress and serve as a mentor for the student pharmacists, serve as a resource to enhance student understanding of pharmacy and patient related issues, facilitate interactions with healthcare professionals and assess students competence.

The preceptor should be aware at all times that his/her role is as a teacher. The preceptor should strive to stimulate the student's interest in all aspects of practice and encourage innovative thinking and approaches to practice.

Exemplary preceptors are role model practitioners and effective teachers who encourage self directed learning with constructive feedback to student pharmacists.

I suggest the heads of pharm.D course to encourage their young faculty to trail them for this important role so that quality Pharm.D graduates are produced which will contribute towards the overall upliftment of our profession and also helps to serve the society at large.

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