

## Quick Tips for a Successful Precepting Experience

### Orientation strategies

- Explain your role as preceptor
- Identify ground rules and set specific expectations for patient selection, the feedback/evaluation process, and clinical expectations
- Review charting and documentation requirements
- Get to know the student and build on their past clinical experiences

### Teaching strategies

- Create a nurturing environment that decreases anxiety and enhances learning
- Role model the behavior expected of the student
- Assign readings for specialty areas
- Use detailed, guided questions (such as Socratic questions) to develop critical thinking skills
- Give the student some independence. Don't do too much for them, and don't be too quick to take over a task from them
- Take 10-15 minutes at the end of every shift to review what was learned: have the student reflect on what went well, what could have gone better, and goals for next shift
- Immediately reinforce positive behaviors and skills performed well
- Be specific about areas needing improvement: If a skill is performed incorrectly, specify exactly what was incorrect and provide rationale

### Signs of growth & readiness for responsibility

- Increased mutual trust
- No longer a need for preceptor to review each detail; student has demonstrated they will not miss anything important
- Demonstrated competency in physical assessment skills
- Able to give accurate clinical presentation of significant positives and negatives
- Shows ability to tie past experiences to new skills
- Recognizes limits of knowledge and admits to areas needing improvement
- Asks appropriate questions
- Demonstrates self-direction
- Able to come with unstructured setting or unexpected change in schedule/assignment
- Asks for more challenging experiences
- Exhibits confidence