NURS 7601 – Primary Care Practicum I

The nurse practitioner student who will be joining you this semester is in the fourth semester of didactic and is beginning his/her first clinical experience. We have outlined our expectations with the student but also want to make sure you are aware of our hopes for the student experience.

The foci of the first semester are on development of skills in:

- Obtaining appropriate history
- Providing an appropriate physical examination with interpretation of findings
- Obtaining a history and conducting an appropriate physical examination (H&P) for well patient care as well as targeted H&P for acute or chronic problems
- Giving an organized report of H&P findings to you

In the first few days of the clinical rotation you may choose to have the student follow you to allow the student to better understand your clinical interaction with patients. We hope the student will progress to begin to do patient visits independently. By the middle of this semester the student is expected to interview the patient alone to obtain a history and perform the examination. The student would then leave the room and report the history and exam findings to you. You and the student would then return together to examine the patient. By the end of the semester our goal for the student is to obtain an accurate and thorough history, perform an appropriate physical examination, identify a problem, and develop differential diagnoses with beginning understanding of treatment recommendations specific to the diagnoses. Mastery of these skills will be a progression through their clinical experiences.

The student will receive two clinical evaluations conducted by a faculty member during the semester. At least one of these will be at your clinical site. During these visits we do not want to interrupt the normal flow of the clinic. The faculty providing the site visit will not be involved in the care of the patient; rather we are there to observe the student’s progression in obtaining a history, conducting an appropriate physical exam, and his/her interaction with you and the staff. We also would like to discuss with you any comments or concerns regarding the student or our program.

We do ask you to complete an evaluation of the student in the middle and the end of the semester and review this with the student. The student will need to receive the completed evaluation forms from you. Your evaluation of the student progression is important, and is used to determine the student’s final grade. The student will provide you with the evaluation forms.

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