“One Minute Preceptor”

1. **Have the student make a succinct diagnosis on the case. Coach them to be decisive.**
   Ask questions about the patient to push the student beyond his/her comfort zone. This will allow the teaching encounter to be more interactive and personal.

2. **Probe for a rationale.**
   Decide if the student’s answers to your question are rational. Encourage an appropriate reasoning process.

3. **Reinforce what was done well.**
   Focus positive comments on behaviors that demonstrated the knowledge, skills, or attitudes that you value as a preceptor. Do not be afraid to tell the student in what areas they need improvement. Be specific.

4. **Teach a general principle.**
   Take the information and data gleaned from a specific learning situation and apply them as a broader concept to other situations.

5. **Provide closure.**
   This final step marks the end of the teaching moment and the chance for the preceptor to define what the role of the student will be in their next precepting opportunity.

*Journal of the American Board of Family Practice*
Helpful Hints for Preceptors

- Openly discuss your expectations with the student, and allow them to discuss their expectations.

- Encourage students to accomplish specific tasks while you are busy with patients. This will motivate them and keep them from following you around.

- Try not to guess what your student may or may not know. Ask them questions to help you determine their knowledge.

- Check any documentation done by the student to make sure that it is appropriate and sufficient.

- Avoid making critical remarks of a student when they are working with a patient.

- Be sure to deal with any significant problems you are having with the student early on. This might include things like the student’s dress, professionalism, or personal hygiene.

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