Additional Learning Opportunities for Elective or Core Learners

Providing your elective or core learner with additional meaningful work optimizes their learning. When considering additional meaningful work for learners, engage them in activities that have valued added benefits to your practice.

Practice Management and Quality Improvement

Have the learner:

- Complete an EMR Chart Audit that looks at how well you are following a specific clinical guideline or Choosing Wisely recommendations. Ensure this is supported by structured learning about QI/chart audit processes and principles.
- Develop and present a pandemic plan for the office.
- Participate in meetings that focus on system administration or professional development. Have them take notes and find areas where you might consider changes to your practice, and work out a plan together for implementation.
- Plan and present a wellness "intervention" for you and your staff. They can present mindfulness techniques, relaxation training and other approaches that will be useful to you, to them, and to future patients.
- Help with a preventative QI project. Ensure the learner understands the value of their impact on these areas of preventative care.

> For example, a learner could identity your practice patients over the age of 65 who have not had their Pneumovax. With a staff member, they can arrange recalls for these patients and assist with administering immunizations.

Assisting with Patient Care

Have the learner:

- Complete EMR chart review and create progress note with follow-up issues to be addressed.
- Identify patient education materials (print or online) specific to the practice. Select the topic together, then delegate the learner to complete the search and conduct a critical appraisal including a literacy assessment.
- Complete medication reviews on complex patients: Learners touch base with the patient's pharmacist, reconcile your EMR list with the pharmacist's record, and follow up with patients to ensure the medications are correct.
- Fill out patient forms or draft letters for your review.
- Review incoming labs using labtestsonline.org as a resource.
- Conduct an online search around a specific patient or disease.
- Research less expensive medication alternatives to assist patients struggling with drug costs. Learners can also help identify drug substitutions if there are shortages.

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Innovative Teaching Approach

Reverse the teaching: Have the learner review virtual visit best practices and then give feedback on what you are doing along with areas for improvement.

Virtual clinical care is here to stay. This means we need to be creative in the ways that we support learners in community practice settings where care will continue to include a virtual context. Here are some ideas for including learners in virtual visits.

- Learners can complete prep work for in-person visits by calling patients before you see them to record relevant aspects of their history. They can do this in advance so you have less to do when you see the patient.
- For well child visits, have your learner use the Rourke Well Baby Visit Records on the phone before any in-clinic visit and enter these notes.
- Learners can complete clinical notes on shared visits that include you both. You can complete another virtual visit while the learner completes notes for the last visit in the EMR. Review the notes later in the same day.
- Provide a framework for smoking cessation counselling and consider having your learners do smoking cessation counselling in virtual visits.
- If you have capacity, consider having your learner call those patients who are vulnerable or at risk and screen to see if they need a virtual visit.
- Learners can complete a periodic health review history and identify relevant screening options (FOB, mammogram, pap, and specific immunizations).

For additional strategies to support learner participation in virtual visits, click this link to access our **Supervising Learners While Providing Virtual Care** Tip Sheet.

Contact CEPD with feedback, comments, and suggestions. https://www.nosm.ca/education/cepd/

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