



Clinical Scheduling for Medical Students

Wave scheduling: 2 or 3 patients scheduled at the same time followed by a catch up break. The student sees one while you see the other/s. At some time, you see the student's patient as well.

9:00am- 2 patients (each see one)

9:20am- catch up break for precepting, wrapping up visits

9:40am- 2 patients

10:00am- catch up break (and so on....)

For example, one appointment time blocked in the schedule in mid morning, two blocked at different times in afternoon.

- Allows you to catch up for time you spent precepting and stay on schedule.
- Could potentially decrease productivity/reimbursement if your salary is productivity dependent.
- Need support from the practice for precepting to have this kind of flexibility

Student Thinking Time

- Student sees patient, comes out, reports H and P to preceptor.
- Preceptor goes to see patient.
- While preceptor is seeing patient, student develops plan.
- Student reports plan to preceptor. Modifications are made as needed.
- Student or student and preceptor return to room to communicate plan to patient. (personal communication, Kaye Lee, FNP, 2010)

Focused Half-Day

- Student spends time before and after their patient arrives studying the chart, looking up material related to the focus of the day and the care of the patient.
- The schedule is the "table of contents" for the day's educational experience.
- You concentrate on seeing the rest of the patients and confine your teaching on that day to one issue. (Taylor, Lipsky, Bauer, 1998)

Best Use of Focused Half-Day

- Beginning student or students first days in a new setting-less overwhelming
- Especially busy days when the preceptor needs to see most of the patient at a more rapid pace.
- Students find that the preparation makes them more efficient and confident in the patient encounter. (Taylor, 1998)