

General Practice Placements

YEAR 2

Placement aims

Three immersion weeks in the academic year are dedicated to general practice. Students attend in groups of fours, for three full days in an immersion week. Their six sessions in the practice are complemented by four sessions of aligned teaching at the medical school, designed to introduce learners to the principles of general practice and emulate the feel of GP training.

Students must gain authentic experience in the clinical setting:

- Provide a brief induction to the practice and team explaining context and role of different team members
- A minimum of 50% of the sessions should be spent observing a GP, which can include activities such as observed history taking and examination (depending on your judgement of the student's readiness)
- The remaining sessions can be spent observing patient-facing work with other members of the primary healthcare team

Themes for Year 2 GP placements

Clinical placements in Year 2 are orientated towards:

- Understanding people, in health and illness
- To further develop the clinical and communication skills required of a doctor
- Social determinants of health and inequalities in healthcare
- Developing an understanding and awareness of team-working and multi-professional roles in healthcare

What students learn in Year 2

The four principal themes of the Clinical and Community Practice (CCP) module are:

- Health of people, communities, and populations
- Clinical and communication skills
- The wider team in promoting health and wellbeing
- The life cycle

The CCP module has been developed to complement the other Year 2 modules:

- Neuroscience and Behaviour
- Reproduction and Endocrinology
- Musculoskeletal and Immune Systems



Feedback from a Year 2 student

“Appointments with the HCA and the GPs were extremely useful. They involved me in patient discussions and would ask me my opinions. All of the staff, doctors and nurses were so welcoming and supportive.”

Please email us for information about teaching fees. Remuneration is competitive, and there is an uplift available for practices located within five miles of Brighton & Hove.

Assessment

Attendance and Clinical Skills Logbook (PORTAL App): There is an attendance record for the clinical attachments in the Clinical Skills PORTAL (Phase One Rotation and Technical Attendance Logbook) app. GP placements must be recorded by the students themselves.

Case-based discussion

Students will be expected to attend GP teaching week seminars on clinical decision-making and case-based discussion and submit a case-based discussion in the form of a presentation or written work. The students will receive verbal feedback, no mark will be awarded. The students will be encouraged to upload a reflection on the CBD case in their e-portfolio. These will not count to the pass / fail component of the modular assessments but are used as part of the Personal and Professional Development programme.

Sessions 1-3 Learning Outcomes

When students come to you in their immersion weeks, they will have spent time in clinical placements and received teaching on how to take a history, undertake a range of clinical examinations and perform a range of clinical skills. Two sessions of community GP teaching are provided in their first year. Students benefit from, and enjoy, being able to build on this knowledge under direct observation in the GP setting.

The first sessions could include the following:

- Observing patient triaging by the admin/clinical team
- An introduction to your practice and team, possibly including a brief history of your practice, how you work and what you do for your community
- Establishing particular learning needs
- Observing GP consultations (we would suggest a reduced surgery, with some sessions blocked off to facilitate debriefing and discussion)
- Observing a practice nurse or advanced clinical practitioner in their clinic
- Spending time with a healthcare assistant or clinical pharmacist undertaking new patient health checks, health education or specific clinical skills (to be determined based on comfort and experience of all parties - but there is no expectation that students are taught a specific set of clinical skills in this time).

The three scheduled immersion weeks are distributed across the academic year, with one week taking place in November, one in February and one in April. Please email us for the dates. Practices are required to commit to all three weeks. Placement days run from Tuesday to Thursday. Students attend in groups of four, from 9am until 5pm.

Sessions 4-6 Learning Outcomes

By the end of their time in general practice, we hope that students will be confident enough, to lead a consultation with one or two patients, take a history and perform parts of a clinical examination under the supervision of their host GP (NB: intimate examinations are not covered in the first two years of the programme).

Whilst these placements are largely observational, hands-on experience is always highly evaluated by students. If, based on your professional judgement, you feel a student has demonstrated sufficient competence and confidence, they may be invited to take histories or perform basic examinations on patients under direct supervision. This is, however, at the discretion of their supervising clinician.



Feedback from a GP

“ I am really happy to see that our teaching was so well-evaluated and very much appreciated. This is valuable for us as teachers and the feedback also forms part of my appraisal when preparing for GP revalidation. We are really looking forward to teaching the next set of medical students.”

Year 2 Clinical and Admin Contacts

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