Quick Reference Guide for General Practice Placements
Year 1 2019-20

Year 1 - Module 101

Placement Aim: To prepare the students for working in the clinical environment

Themes for Year 1 GP Placements
- Practising communication skills
- Patient centred medicine
- History taking and examination skills
- Learning in the clinical environment
- The Family Study (a family with a new-born child)

What happens in these placements and when do they occur?

Students are allocated in pairs to a GP practice across the academic year (September to June). Each pair/three will attend your practice on three occasions to see patients with conditions linked to the diseases that they are studying in the bioscience modules.

They are encouraged to talk to these patients, take histories and perform examinations (under direct supervision), which facilitates comfort in talking to patients. During this time students are asked to analyse features of the consultations that they witness to use as examples for the student portfolio which forms one of the assessments during the academic year. The students visit your practice for three hours on Tuesday afternoons. This is ‘protected time’ and ideally you should see no more than six patients in that period to gain as much teaching potential as possible out of each encounter.

What is expected?

Learning outcomes for each visit to your practice are contained in the GP Teacher’s handbook, and students begin with observation of the consultation, looking at communication styles, types of questions and agendas. Students are encouraged to take histories from patients attending the practice, carefully facilitated by the GP tutor. Later in the year they are also encouraged to practise examinations in front of their tutor. In Year 1 this involves an introduction to the examination of the cardiovascular, respiratory, and abdominal systems.

Term Dates 2019-20
23 Sep 19 — 06 Dec 19
06 Jan 20 — 13 Mar 20
13 Apr 20 — 19 Jun 20

Year 1 Contacts
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Summary of Each Visit

Visit 1
- Introduction, tour of practice, ground rules for confidentiality and courtesy
- The visits: aims, learning outcomes, content, and assessment
- Observing GP consultations
- Feedback from GP on the learning that has taken place
- Introduction to family with new baby

Visit 2
- The importance of good communication in medicine
- Observing the work of a practice nurse (if possible)
- GP review general support and advice, reflections upon the first term at BSMS
- Accompany GP on home visit

Visit 3
- To practise taking histories from patients
- To observe a fellow student taking a history and provide constructive feedback
- Review of clinical skills and feedback

Assessment (summative)

Attendance and completion of clinical skills logbook
Attendance across all placements needs to be 80% and we would expect students to attend all three of their GP visits. Each visit should be signed off by the GP teacher.

Portfolio
This will contain thoughts and reflections on clinical and educational experiences. The portfolio comprises three assignments across the year marked as an average. The underlying theme is ‘reflective practice’. These assignments are marked by our in-house facilitators.

Family Study Essay
A 3000 word essay entitled: How babies affect the family, develop, and are helped to stay healthy. Students will be expected to integrate their personal experience of the family visits, co-ordinated with SCT health visitors and demonstrate their knowledge gained from learning and reading. These assignments are

Assessment (formative)
Each student will complete a formative clinical skills examination as part of the teaching program which will include hot (verbal) feedback and an individualised video of the clinical stations for the student to review.

Payment
A fee of £600 per pair of students is payable, plus additional funding for equipment and professional development.

This guide is intended to give you a brief overview of the teaching in Year 1. There is more information in the Year 1 GP Teacher’s handbook which is sent to all GP Teachers before commencement of a placement. Please do get in touch if you have any questions.