

MANDATORY PLACEMENT LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

Clinical education of Physician Associate students is a partnership arrangement between the student, clinical staff and academic supervisor. This document clarifies the expectations and responsibilities of all involved. The aim is to ensure that students are prepared to be fit for purpose as qualified Physician Associates.

Clinical Staff have the right to expect:

1. Students to behave in a courteous and respectful manner at all times.
2. Students to conduct themselves in a professional manner as defined by the Competence Curriculum Framework for the Physician Associate and in keeping with clinical placement policies.
3. Students to undertake their role as a learner in accordance with their competency level and in adherence to the relevant university and clinical placement policies and procedures.
4. The Placement Team to ensure that clinical areas have three weeks advance notification of student placements where possible.
5. Students to report sickness and absence immediately to the clinical placement and the University.
6. Students to contact the clinical placement to which they have been allocated at least one week prior to the start of the placement.
7. Students to have an understanding of the record of practice documentation and be able to access the documentation relating throughout their allocation.
8. Students to be flexible in using available learning opportunities.
9. A placement academic liaison who will actively support the learning environments in accordance with local and national standards.
10. Regular communication with the University to discuss course structures, assessment procedures and evaluation of clinical placements.
11. Students to complete a placement evaluation and be accountable for their feedback. (Academic Advisors and Academic Liaisons will review the evaluations after each placement allocation.)
12. An Educational Audit to be undertaken as per Faculty requirements and 'Best Practice'. As part of the biennial educational audit, student evaluations will be discussed and reflected on by the HEI/Placement Provider.
13. Re-auditing will be undertaken in any practice learning environment from which students have been temporarily removed.

Students have the right to expect:

1. Courtesy and respect, and to be treated as a valued member of the multi-disciplinary team.
2. Three weeks' notice of a continuous placement allocation, where possible.
3. Access to individual practice learning environment profiles that reflect current services and programme placement requirements.
4. A clinical placement that, will have no more than the optimum number of students.
5. To be supervised by a registered medical practitioner
6. A safe and supportive environment that is conducive to meeting identified individual student learning needs commensurate with their competency level and clinical practice needs.

7. A flexible collaborative approach that acknowledges and responds to the individual learning needs of the student, wherever possible.
8. Access to learning resources.
9. Placement Provider to provide the student with an orientation to the placement setting.
10. Placement areas to provide access to relevant policies and procedures including health and safety audit, protecting vulnerable groups, lone worker [community], risk assessment and accident and incident reporting.
11. The opportunity to evaluate their placement with appropriate action being taken in response to their feedback.
12. A working environment that meets health and safety regulations.
13. Consideration/reasonable adjustments to be made as identified by the Disability Coordinators following disclosure of a disability/long term health condition.
14. A placement with a satisfactory education audit
15. To be informed of the importance of, and process for, raising and escalating concerns when on practice placements, during each practice placement induction.
16. To be supported in the process of raising and escalating concerns when on practice placements.
17. To be supported and safely reallocated should their temporary removal from a practice learning environment be necessary.

The University and Lecturers have the right to expect:

1. Courtesy and respect at all times.
2. Placement providers to cooperate with quality assurance processes.
3. Clinical staff to liaise with University staff regarding the progress of students on placement.
4. Clinical staff to notify Academic Advisors /University Student Support Officers as soon as there is concern about a student's progress.
5. To be notified if a student is involved in any situation that may require the student to produce a statement so that the appropriate support can be provided.
6. To be notified of any concerns or issues which may impact on the quality of the student learning environment.
7. The Placement Team to inform them of student placements three weeks prior to start of placement, wherever possible.
8. Students to notify their academic supervisor if experiencing problems whilst on placement.
9. Students to follow the processes outlined on the placement learning information website.
10. Dedicated time to undertake the Liaison role.
11. Opportunities to liaise with clinical staff to discuss educational issues.

Patients and Carers have the right to expect:

1. To be fully informed of the student's role in their care.
2. To be fully informed of their right to decline student involvement in their care.
3. Respect for their rights, including: confidentiality dignity and privacy, equality and diversity in all practice learning environments.
4. Safe, effective and compassionate care in all practice learning environments.
5. That students will be aware of the importance of, and process for, raising and escalating concerns in the practice environment.

The ultimate aim of this document is to ensure that patients/clients and carers receive the best possible care by Physician Associates of the future who are fit for purpose.