



Fact Sheet #3

2008 Preceptor Survey

Discipline of Preceptor, All Respondents

Summary

We are pleased to report new information about the Georgia Statewide AHEC Network's survey of community based medical student preceptors. We sent 210 surveys to preceptors who had trained third- and fourth-year medical students in at least 2 rotations, and by October 2008, 75% of the surveys were returned to us. In general, the preceptors are happy with mentoring future physicians, and expect to continue doing so for the next 5 years.

Community-based Faculty by Discipline

Our community-based faculty (CBF) practice in about 15 disciplines, and over half of them are either in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, or Pediatrics. CBFs responded to a series of questions about their satisfaction with the preceptor experience.

The table below shows our preceptors' satisfaction with the CBF experience, satisfaction with available incentives, and likelihood to continue as a preceptor for the next 5 years, using a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high). Regardless of specialty, our preceptors' likelihood to continue working with us seems to be influenced more by their experience with students than the lure of incentives (such as stipends or access to online resources). The CBFs practicing in Psychiatry/Psychology seemed to be happiest with their experience. Gender and race/ethnicity numbers are also listed by discipline below.

Table 1. Gender, Race/Ethnicity, and Satisfaction Scores of CBF, by Discipline

| Discipline | % Female | % White | Satisfied with CBF Experience | Satisfied with Incentives | Likely to Continue as CBF |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Psychiatry/Psychology | 14% | 29% | 4.9 | 3.9 | 5.0 |
| Surgery/Neurosurgery | — | 92% | 4.3 | 3.4 | 4.7 |
| Emergency Medicine | — | 61% | 4.2 | 3.1 | 4.5 |
| Family Medicine | 14% | 66% | 4.2 | 3.4 | 4.5 |
| Pediatrics | 38% | 75% | 4.4 | 3.6 | 4.3 |
| Internal Medicine | 25% | 73% | 4.2 | 2.9 | 4.2 |
| Obstetrics/Gynecology | 14% | 86% | 4.4 | 3.0 | 4.1 |
| All Others (8 disciplines) | 15% | 92% | 4.0 | 3.1 | 4.1 |

Types of Students Precepted by Specialty

Preceptors were also asked about the kinds of students they precepted, and could give as many answers as applied to their situation. As expected, most of our community-based faculty precepted medical students, outnumbering all others combined. In Internal Medicine, for example, all preceptors said they taught medicine students, but only a quarter had contact with physicians assistant students.

Table 2. Types of Students Precepted by Community-based Faculty, by Discipline

| Discipline | Total CBF | Medicine | Physician Assistant | Nurse Practitioner | Pharmacy | Certified Nurse Midwife | Other |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Internal Medicine | 44 | 100% | 25% | 18% | 7% | 2% | — |
| Family Medicine | 29 | 93% | 34% | 34% | 3% | — | 10% |
| Pediatrics | 24 | 96% | 50% | 42% | 8% | — | 8% |
| Obstetrics/Gynecology | 14 | 100% | 50% | 36% | — | 14% | 7% |
| Emergency Medicine | 13 | 100% | 54% | 54% | — | — | — |
| Surgery/Neurosurgery | 13 | 92% | 38% | 23% | 8% | — | — |
| Psychiatry/Psychology* | 7 | 86% | — | — | — | — | — |
| All Others (8 disciplines) | 13 | 85% | 38% | — | 23% | — | 31% |

* One of the Psychiatry/Psychology preceptors did not answer this question, but all of the 6 who did said that they precept medicine students.

Among the “Other” types of students precepted were dentistry, licensed practical nurse, medical assistant, nursing, palliative care, radiology, respiratory therapy, and high school.

Next Steps

In the next few months, we will release the final fact sheet once we’ve analyzed the data by geographic region. Please watch our website for these fact sheets by clicking the “Preceptor Survey Results” hyperlink at www.mcg.edu/ahec.