



Fact Sheet #4

2008 Preceptor Survey

AHEC Affiliation, All Respondents

Summary

We are pleased to report 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 75% of the surveys were returned to us. In general, the preceptors are happy with mentoring future physicians and other medical professionals, and expect to continue doing so for the next 5 years.

Community-based Faculty by AHEC Region

All 6 regions were represented in the survey, and demographic and survey data are included in the table below.

The survey asked responders to score such things as their overall degree of satisfaction with their experience as a community-based faculty member, their satisfaction with any incentives they receive as preceptors, and their likelihood to continue as preceptors, using a scale of 1 (very low) to 5 (very high).

AHEC Region	Total CBFs Responding	% Female	% White	% Rural	Experience as a CBF	Incentives	Likely to Continue
SOWEGA	52	19%	77%	11%	4.2	3.0	4.3
Magnolia Coastlands	37	27%	86%	8%	4.1	3.0	4.3
Three Rivers	25	16%	72%	28%	4.4	3.6	4.3
Blue Ridge	23	4%	74%	4%	4.3	3.4	4.4
SPCC Atlanta	11	27%	27%	—	4.9	3.9	4.5
Foothills	9	11%	78%	33%	4.3	2.8	4.4
Total Responding	157	18%	74%	13%	4.3	3.2	4.3
All Sent Survey	210	21%	71%	12%			

What our Community-based Faculty have to Say

We need numbers to help us quantify the experiences of our community-based faculty, but our CBFs' comments help us to truly understand how they feel about precepting:

"I really enjoy this. I don't receive a stipend and it's time consumptive, but I love it so much that I would love more students. Stipends, workshops/ education to increase my effectiveness at mentoring would be useful."

“A pleasure to work with AHEC and MCG staff and students.”

“I am not aware that I am an AHEC preceptor. I believe that all who teach medical students should be compensated (routinely) for that service unless they refuse payment. The state of Georgia wants to expand the number of physicians taught, but seems hesitant to pay for medical education and for indigent care. If you want excellence, pay for it.”

“Very satisfied until last 1-2 years. I realize there are virtually no American trained MDs going into internal medicine or family medicine. We have a primary care crisis in rural Georgia.”

“Would like to know more about ‘incentives.’”

“Students are assets in so many non-material ways. Would like more feedback, i.e., student evaluations of my practice.”

Next Steps

All 4 fact sheets about the 2008 survey can be found at www.mcg.edu/ahec by clicking on the “Preceptor Survey Results” link. We’d like to thank our preceptors for participating in this survey and for their dedication to training future medical professionals. We will consider changes to our program based on the survey results, and plan to send out another survey, this time to all community-based faculty, in the next few years.