

Town Hall Questions and Answers

Q: What does the office do with the information obtained from the assessment too?

A: The office tracks the student longitudinally, track for general areas of strength and weakness, help them best prepare for the boards, comparing competencies with EPAs and determine how best to utilize.

Q: Will EPAs be used for grading in the future?

A: They may be used in some format as we learn more about how best to utilize. If used they would like be in a pass/fail format rather than to generate a grade. They may also be used to help students and faculty track how students are doing.

Q: How often are town halls done?

A: Our goal is use this as a mechanism to communicate new information and answer questions. We plan to have them on an ongoing basis. Monthly would be reasonable as long as we have content to warrant. We will likely have repeat sessions for a given topic.

Q: I think the students are under the impression that a 3 would be equivalent to a "C". That may need to be clarified with them.

A: We will remind students about this as well.

Q: Can the competencies be customized or do we have to answer all for each rotation?

A: Because of the way the assessment tool is built in PharmAcademic, you cannot select what appears, but if you have something that is not a part of the rotation or no applicable you simply select NA and it is not factored as part of the grade. This was removed due to some system complexities. The office assessed the impact of flat weighting versus variable weighting. There was not much of a grade impact.

Q: Can any accommodations for students who are traveling 1 hour each way to rotation site?

A: As long as the student is completing their hours and not working excessively long in 1 week, and it works for the site, variable schedules can be created such a slightly longer days and fewer days per week.

Q: Any chance to have more than one preceptor access student assessment in PharmAcademic when we have two preceptors sharing a student?

A: Right now that is a PharmAcademic issue and we are not able to do that. It is something on their list to look at.

Q: The assessment tool options do not seem to align with the grade. Can you clarify?

A: A "C" student can meet expectations with constant guidance (competent). Above Average - When say perform with minimal guidance, not saying they are being allowed to do something they would not otherwise but rather with minimal prompts or suggestions they can meet or exceed the expectations OR with general guidance they can exceed. Excellent – Independent does not mean a physical separation or

lack of oversight, it just means they can perform well without you having to direct them or provide prompts. Some confusion on the “above average”. The wording can be a little confusing, but the intent is as indicated above.

General comments

Comment: Thank you... now that I've heard from you that the score given isn't really correlated with a grade, per se, then I can be more accurate with my scoring. I was fearful that giving them a 3 equal to a C, which the 2 students I've had thus far have definitely been above average students and need to be acknowledged for that.

The revised evaluation tool is more applicable overall than the previous format

Going to 6 week rotation comments

6 week rotations have allowed us to do split rotations within a specialized area, 3 weeks in Gen Peds followed by 3 weeks in Peds Infectious Disease or 3 weeks in women's services and 3 weeks in the NICU. The students have enjoyed seeing different areas within these specialties. The preceptors have enjoyed this as the feedback I have heard from my site that 6 weeks would be a lot for one preceptor as they are spending so much time precepting. Faculty feedback – this may also be a week for preceptors who not seeing as many students to still be a part of the teaching team.

6 weeks is better IMO 4 was too short to get good grasp of our computer system

From talking to students it does not sound like the 6 week rotations are an improvement. There are too many rotations that do not have 6 weeks of content. OEP feedback – be sure to reach out to regional coordinator or office as folks are doing creative things to optimize. Some are slitting and providing 2 different exposures during the 6 weeks, or providing some additional opportunities that there might not have been time for.

Worked out well for my rotation because there was enough time for a student to complete research and a poster for Midyear

Block rotations at the same site are a great way to advance competencies

I am very pleased with 6 weeks... It really helps evaluate how independent the student can become. We also give them additional time in the area we find them little less prepared.

College as seen cases where a student would not have performed well at the 4 week mark but 2 more weeks allowed them to gain the appropriate skills and be successful.

Town Hall topic comments

I think a topic later on research/honors project is good :)