



EM 801, EMERGENCY MEDICINE ELECTIVE ROTATION SYLLABUS
 ROTATION LENGTH TBD
 CLINICAL EDUCATION

1. Contact Information

Course Director				
Name	Department	Office	Phone	Email
Elizabeth McMurtry, DO, FACEP	Clinical Medicine		509.876.6646	emcmurtry@pnwu.edu

Support Staff		
Name		Email
Clinical Education		rotations@pnwu.edu

2. Course Description/Overview

This Emergency Medicine clerkship is scheduled with a preceptor who is an expert in this field. It is intended to enhance the student’s ability to recognize emergent conditions and initiate evaluation and stabilizing treatment, to better equip students for starting internship. Students will experience the day-to-day activities of clinicians as they assist in patient care. Exposure to patients in the clinic setting will give the student an opportunity to practice interview, examination, documentation and presentation skills. These activities help develop student’s clinical reasoning and provide opportunities to learn necessary professional activities. Students may be afforded by the preceptor the opportunity to participate in procedures as the preceptor deems appropriate. The curriculum for this rotation is based on nationally recognized recommendations from Clerkship Directors of Emergency Medicine. For further reading see [CDEM Curriculum \(saem.org\)](http://saem.org)

3. Course Purpose/Goals

The objective of the Emergency Medicine clerkship is to give the student exposure and clinical experience in the practice of this specialty. Completion of this course should prepare the student well for the COMAT and COMLEX exams, give a foundation for knowledge, and make them competitive for residency.

Nationally there has been a move towards the use of EPAs to ascertain a student’s residency preparedness. Below you will find a table of the EPAs PNWU will be utilizing.

4. Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs)		
EPAs	Description of Activity	Domains of Competence
EPA 1: Gather a history and perform a physical examination including an osteopathic structural exam as appropriate.	Osteopathic medical students should be able to perform an accurate, complete or focused history and physical exam in a prioritized, organized manner without supervision and with respect for the patient. The history and physical examination should be tailored to the clinical situation and specific patient encounter. This data gathering and patient interaction activity serves as the basis for clinical work and as the building block for patient evaluation and management. Learners need to integrate the scientific foundations of medicine with clinical reasoning skills to guide their information gathering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Care • Knowledge for Practice • Interpersonal and Communication Skills • Professionalism • Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP)
EPA 2: Prioritize a differential diagnosis following a clinical encounter (musculoskeletal considerations that may lead to somatic dysfunction.	To be prepared for the first day of residency, all osteopathic medical students in training need to be able to integrate patient data to formulate an assessment, developing a list of potential diagnoses that can be prioritized and lead to selection of a working diagnosis. Developing a differential diagnosis is a dynamic and reflective process that requires continuous adaptation to avoid common errors of clinical reasoning such as premature closure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Care • Knowledge for Practice • Practice-Based Learning and Environment • Interpersonal and Communication Skills • Personal and Professional Development • Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP)
EPA 3: Recommend and interpret common diagnostic and screening tests.	This EPA describes the essential ability of the day one resident to select and interpret common diagnostic and screening tests* using evidence-based and cost-effective principles as one approaches a patient in any setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend first-line, cost-effective diagnostic • Evaluation for a patient with an acute or chronic common disorder or as part of routine health maintenance. • Provide a rationale for the decision to order the test. • Incorporate cost awareness and

		<p>principles of cost-effectiveness and pre-test/post-test probability in developing diagnostic plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpret the results of basic diagnostic studies (both lab and imaging); know • Common lab values (e.g., electrolytes). • Understand the implications and urgency of an abnormal result and seek assistance for interpretation as needed. • Elicit and consider patient preferences in making recommendations. • Clinical Experiences • Presentations • COMAT
<p>EPA 4: Enter and discuss orders and prescriptions and applicable Osteopathic treatments.</p>	<p>Writing safe and indicated orders is fundamental to a physician’s ability to prescribe therapies or interventions beneficial to patients. It is expected that Osteopathic medical students will be able to do this without direct supervision when they matriculate to residency. Entering students will have a comprehensive understanding of some but not necessarily all of the patient’s clinical problems for which they must provide orders. They must also recognize their limitations and seek review and guidance for any orders and prescriptions they are expected to provide but for which they do not understand the rationale. The expectation is that learners will be able to enter safe orders and prescriptions in a variety of clinical settings (e.g., inpatient, ambulatory, urgent, or emergent care).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Care • Knowledge for Practice • Practice-Based Learning and Environment • Interpersonal and Communication Skills • Professionalism • Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP)
<p>EPA 5: Document a clinical encounter in the patient record.</p>	<p>Osteopathic medical students should be able to provide accurate, focused, and context-specific documentation of a clinical encounter in either written or electronic formats. Performance of this EPA is predicated on the ability to obtain information through history, using both primary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Care • Interpersonal and Communication Skills • Professionalism • Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP)

AY23-24 EM 801, EMERGENCY MEDICINE ELECTIVE SYLLABUS

	and secondary sources, and physical exam in a variety of settings (e.g., office visit, admission, discharge summary, telephone call, and email).	
EPA 6: Provide an oral presentation of a clinical encounter.	Osteopathic medical students should be able to concisely present a summary of a clinical encounter to one or more members of the health care team (including patients and families) in order to achieve a shared understanding of the patient's current condition. A prerequisite for the ability to provide an oral presentation is synthesis of the information, gathered into an accurate assessment of the patient's current condition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice-Based Learning and Environment • Interpersonal and Communication Skills • Professionalism • Personal and Professional Development
EPA 7: Form clinical questions and retrieve evidence to advance patient care.	It is crucial that students be able to identify key clinical questions in caring for patients, identify information resources, and retrieve information and evidence that will be used to address those questions. Osteopathic medical students should have basic skill in critiquing the quality of the evidence and assessing applicability to their patients and the clinical context. Underlying the skill set of practicing evidence-based medicine is the foundational knowledge an individual has and the self-awareness to identify gaps and fill them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge for Practice • Practice-Based Learning and Improvement
EPA 8: Give or receive a patient handover to transition care responsibility.	Effective and efficient handover communication is critical for patient care. Handover communication ensures that patients continue to receive high-quality and safe care through transitions of responsibility from one health care team or practitioner to another. Handovers are also foundational to the success of many other types of interprofessional communication, including discharge from one provider to another and from one setting to another. Handovers may occur between settings (e.g., hospitalist to PCP, pediatric to adult caregiver, discharges to lower-acuity settings) or within settings (e.g., shift changes).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Care • Practice-Based Learning and Environment • Interpersonal and Communication Skills • Professionalism

AY23-24 EM 801, EMERGENCY MEDICINE ELECTIVE SYLLABUS

<p>EPA 9: Collaborate as a member of an interprofessional team.</p>	<p>Effective teamwork is necessary to achieve the Institute of Medicine competencies for care that is safe, timely, effective, efficient, and equitable. Introduction to the roles, responsibilities, and contributions of individual team members early in professional development is critical to fully embracing the value that teamwork adds to patient care outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interpersonal and Communication Skills ● Professionalism ● Systems-Based Practice ● Interprofessional Collaboration
<p>EPA 10: Recognize a patient requiring urgent or emergent care and initiate evaluation and management.</p>	<p>The ability to promptly recognize a patient who requires urgent or emergent care, initiate evaluation and management, and seek help is essential for all physicians. New residents, in particular, are often among the first responders in an acute care setting, or the first to receive notification of an abnormal lab or deterioration in a patient's status. Early recognition and intervention provide the greatest chance for optimal outcomes in patient care. This EPA often calls for simultaneously recognizing need and initiating a call for assistance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Patient Care ● Interpersonal and Communication Skills
<p>EPA 11: Obtain informed consent for procedures/tests (under preceptor supervision).</p>	<p>All physicians must be able to perform patient care interventions that require informed consent. Osteopathic medical students may be in a position to obtain signatures for informed consent for interventions, tests, or procedures they order or perform (e.g., immunizations, central lines, contrast and radiation exposures, blood transfusions, and OMM) after risks and benefits have been explained by the physician caring for the patient.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Patient Care ● Interpersonal and Communication Skills ● Professionalism ● Systems-Based Practice ● Personal and Professional Development
<p>EPA 12: Perform general procedures of a physician including applicable Osteopathic treatments.</p>	<p>All Osteopathic medical students must demonstrate competency in performing a few core procedures under supervision on completion of medical school in order to provide basic patient care. These procedures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) ● Bag and mask ventilation ● Venipuncture ● Inserting an intravenous line ● Osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Patient Care ● Interpersonal and Communication Skills ● Professionalism ● Systems-Based Practice ● Personal and Professional Development ● Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP)

<p>EPA 13: Identify system failures and contribute to a culture of safety and improvement.</p>	<p>Preventing unnecessary morbidity and mortality requires health professionals to have both an understanding of systems and a commitment to their improvement. This commitment must begin in the earliest stages of health professional education and training. Therefore, this EPA is critical to the professional formation of a physician and forms the foundation for a lifelong commitment to systems thinking and improvement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge for Practice • Practice-Based Learning and Environment • Interpersonal and Communication Skills • Professionalism • Systems-Based Practice
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Prepared by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, in conjunction with all U.S. Osteopathic Medical Schools. April 2016.
Osteopathic Considerations for Core Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) for Entering Residency, 2016.

5. Course Learning Objectives (NBOME)		
Course Learning Objectives	Methods of Assessment	Learning Activities
<p>Osteopathic Practice and Principles Candidates must be able to demonstrate knowledge of osteopathic principles and practice, and to demonstrate and apply knowledge of somatic dysfunction diagnosis and Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment in the clinical setting.</p>	<p>Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT</p>	<p>Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations</p>
<p>Patient Care Provide patient-centered care that is culturally responsive, compassionate, and appropriate for the effective treatment of illness and promotion of health.</p>	<p>Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT</p>	<p>Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations</p>
<p>Medical Knowledge Develop a foundation of practical clinical knowledge on rotations while applying basic science knowledge. Develop skills in transitioning from passive to active learning. Elements include an understanding and application of the evolving ethics of human subject research, osteopathic, biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, biomechanical, and cognate (e.g., epidemiological and social-behavioral) sciences in order to optimize patient care.</p>	<p>Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT</p>	<p>Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations</p>
<p>Clinical Skills Recognize important roles of administrative personnel, nurses and physicians in the delivery of health care that contributes to a student’s professional development. Further refine patient history and physical exam, and patient case presentations.</p>	<p>Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT</p>	<p>Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations</p>

<p>Practice-Based Learning and Improvement Demonstrate the ability to continuously evaluate patient care practices, scientific evidence and personal beliefs and biases as they relate to improving the care of patients and optimizing patient outcomes.</p>	Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT	Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations
<p>Interpersonal and Communication Skills Demonstrate the ability to consistently interact respectfully, empathetically, and professionally with patients, families, allied health care providers, staff and colleagues, to optimize patient and research outcomes.</p>	Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT	Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations
<p>Professionalism Cultivate professional growth through interactions with all members of the health care organization Exhibit appropriate, professional behavior.</p>	Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT	Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations, Skills Labs
<p>Knowledge for Practice Develop a foundation of knowledge in anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, clinical medicine, osteopathic principles related to Primary Care, and clinical research. Students will be expected to apply this knowledge and demonstrate effective diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning skills related to these systems.</p>	Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT	Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations, Skills Labs
<p>Systems-Based Practice Effectively utilize available health care system resources to provide optimal health care to the individual patient and local and global communities.</p>	Preceptor and Assistant Dean Feedback and Evaluations, Case Logs, Case Presentations, Preceptor Evaluation, COMAT	Clinical experiences, Didactics, Case Presentations, Interprofessional Education (IPE)

NBOME Fundamental Osteopathic Medical Competencies. June 2016

6. Course Schedule/Calendar

Please refer to the rotation schedule in E*Value. The rotation block is scheduled from Monday of the first day through Sunday of the last day. It is the expectation that the student will be available to assist the preceptor or designee whenever they are working. This may include evening and weekend call time as assigned by the preceptor and may be up to 80 hours per week. If the rotation involves shifts the student will be expected to work at least four 10-12-hour shifts including a mixture of days, nights and weekends. The student will inform the RSA of their rotation schedule.

7. Course Format

The Clinical Didactics longitudinal course takes place over the third and fourth years of medical school. It consists of two hundred hours of educational activities. Faculty-led components will be held on Wednesday afternoons. Attendance and completion of assigned tasks will be tracked and will be reviewed with the student's Assistant Dean on a periodic basis. Successful completion of the Clinical Didactics course is required for graduation. Details for educational activities will be shared with students on a weekly basis.

8. Course Logistics

Clinical rotations for PNWU are developed in a community training model. Community training involves placing students in a busy physician’s practice, hospital-based experience, or residency program with learning objectives that direct the student’s focus. The student is expected to be self-motivated to read about the cases seen and prepare for upcoming cases. Students should avail themselves of learning opportunities, while taking advantage of clinical cases that present and further augment with reading and modules to complete the objectives. Professionalism means the development of lifelong learning patterns and behaviors. The texts and learning resources will provide information necessary for successfully studying in this rotation. Preceptors and residents may direct the student to their favorite texts or online resources.

The Lange Series available on Access Medicine provides medical student level foundational knowledge in Core subjects. Modules for clerkship training are also available on Access Medicine.

Case Logs

The cases listed below are the course objectives for this rotation. These objectives will prepare the student with a wide breadth of understanding of the common and life-threatening conditions related to this rotation.

Electives occur predominantly in the fourth year, and fourth year students should focus on a deeper understanding of the disease processes than encountered during core rotations. Beyond the areas covered in 3rd year cores (signs, symptoms and physical exam, differential diagnosis, basic pathophysiology, diagnostic studies needed and their interpretation, and initial treatment) the fourth-year student should also be able to address:

- Comorbidities
- Polypharmacy and Drug interactions
- Diagnostic testing
- Chronic treatment

Logs of the cases will be documented in E*Value (see the *Case Logs* tab in E*Value). Logs may be satisfied by seeing a patient with the condition, completing a reading assignment on the condition, or completing an online module providing the student an understanding of the above concepts.

When participating in patient care, the student may wish to briefly state information about a patient for future reference in the “Notes” section. For example: “38-year-old male with depression” or “42-year-old female, assisted in total abdominal hysterectomy”. If a reading is completed or a module is completed, then briefly comment in the “Notes” section the textbook utilized or the module completed.

While elective rotations must have at least one objective entered per day on rotation to meet graduation requirements (i.e. 5+ objectives per week), logging the total number of encounters participated in will better reflect the student’s rotation experience. The logs may be collated in a portfolio to showcase student work for residency interviews.

Cases			
Condition	Direct Patient Care	Observation	Reading/Module
Abdominal aortic aneurysm			
Abdominal trauma			

AY23-24 EM 801, EMERGENCY MEDICINE ELECTIVE SYLLABUS

Acute agitation			
Acute coronary syndromes			
Appendicitis			
Approach to abdominal pain			
Approach to altered mental status			
Approach to chest pain			
Approach to GI bleeding			
Approach to headache			
Approach to poisoning			
Approach to sepsis			
Approach to shock			
Approach to shortness of breath			
Approach to trauma			
Asthma			
Biliary disease			
Burns and smoke inhalation			
Cardiac arrest			
Chest trauma			
Closed head injury			
Congestive heart failure			
COPD			
Drowning			
Ectopic pregnancy			
Envenomation			
Hyperglycemia			
Hyperkalemia			
Hyperthermia			
Hypoglycemia			
Hypothermia			
Intracranial hemorrhage			
Ischemic stroke			
Meningitis and encephalitis			
Mesenteric ischemia			
Neck trauma			
Ovarian torsion			
Perforated viscus			
PID and TOA			
Pneumonia			
Pneumothorax			
Pulmonary embolus			
Seizures and status epilepticus			
Small bowel obstruction			
Snakebites and scorpions			
Suicidal ideation			
Testicular torsion			
Thoracic aortic dissection			
Thyroid Storm			

SOAP Notes

Mastery of writing SOAP notes is an important skill for students to learn. Some of the purposes of SOAP notes include to:

- Reflect the evolution of the physician’s thinking progress as a case unravels, differential diagnosis is created and a final diagnosis surfaces
- Communicate patient status and progress to others involved in care
- Maintain a record for future reference
- Document care for billing purposes
- Protect from liability
- Follow a verbal presentation format

Various organizations have different institutional policies on who may access the electronic medical records (EMR) which may not provide students the opportunity to write notes in the legal record. When the institution allows access to the EMR, the student is expected to utilize the EMR as directed by their preceptor. Writing a SOAP note is an excellent exercise to organize the information known about a patient, and will assist a student in their clinical presentation and reasoning. The student should be writing notes every day, either in the chart when permitted, or as a separate activity. Students should have their preceptor and/or Assistant Dean review their SOAP notes and elicit feedback on their clinical reasoning.

Students should learn the terminology utilized in the discipline, and the expectations of their preceptor for each SOAP note type. Students should review the core SOAP note modules located on the third-year core clerkship Moodle pages found in the on the Medical Students EHR Documentation Training Module that discusses the documentation of a thorough history and physical. Students should use the focused discipline note for a routine visit.

9. Learning Assessment	
Formative Assessments	
Assessment	Pass/Fail
Assistant Dean Reviews	Pass/Fail
Review of Case Logs to ensure 100% completion	Pass/Fail
Evaluation of Formal Presentation – Assistant Dean	Pass/Fail
Mid-rotation Preceptor Review (if applicable)	Not graded
Preceptor Evaluation of Student Performance in Core Competencies	Pass/Fail

Summative Assessments	
Assessment	Pass/Fail
Preceptor Evaluation of Student Performance	Pass/Fail
Attendance (any unexcused absence constitutes a fail)	Pass/Fail

Grades for this course are Pass/Fail. All assessments must have a grade of “Pass” to pass a rotation. Any of the summative assessments with a “Fail” will require remediation of the rotation. Students who have not completed the rotation satisfactorily will be referred to Student Progress Committee for determination of remediation.

10. Exam Policy

Third year

Each third-year core rotation, except Primary Care Core, will be evaluated by a COMAT end of service examination. The COMAT is a national standardized examination produced by NBOME to ensure all students have met course objectives. A student must first pass the accompanying TrueLearn pre-assessment to schedule their COMAT. A passing score for required COMAT examinations is a graduation requirement. Refer to the Student Handbook for more details.

Fourth year

No end-of-service examinations are required by PNWU during electives.

11. Course Textbooks & Supplies

Required Textbooks

Title/ISBN	Author/Publisher/Edition
None. Preceptor may recommend reading materials.	

Suggested Additional Resources

Title/ISBN	Author/Publisher/Edition
<i>CURRENT Medical Diagnosis and Treatment 2021</i> ISBN: 9781260469868	Maxine A. Papadakis, Stephen J. McPhee, Michael W. Rabow, et al., McGraw-Hill. Available on AccessMedicine
<i>Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine</i> ISBN: 9781496368324	Michael A. Seffinger (editor), Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 4th edition. Available on LWW Health Library
<i>Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine</i> ISBN: 9781259644030	J. Larry Jameson, et al. (editors), McGraw-Hill. 20th edition on AccessMedicine
<i>Merck Manual</i>	http://www.merckmanuals.com
<i>Merriam-Webster Medical Dictionary</i>	https://www.merriam-webster.com/medical
<i>The Washington Manual of Medical Therapeutics</i> ISBN: 9781975113483	Zachary Crees, et. al., Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 36th edition. Available on Ovid

12. Student Roles and Responsibilities

Links to current Student Catalog and Student Handbook:

<https://www.pnwu.edu/students/student-catalog>

<https://www.pnwu.edu/students/student-handbook>

a. Student Professionalism

Professional behavior is always expected during this course. It is important that students learn to discuss topics of a sensitive nature in a caring and professional manner. Use of cell phones or texting during class is prohibited. For further clarification of student professionalism expectations, see Student Catalog.

b. Honor Code

The highest standards of academic honesty are always required of all PNWU-COM students. It is expected that no PNWU student will be dishonest in any way, or give the impression of dishonest behavior, nor will PNWU students tolerate dishonesty in others. Disciplinary action may occur as a result of failure to comply with these standards.

c. Academic Support

Students who are having difficulty meeting the requirements of this course should discuss it with their Assistant Dean whenever a problem arises. Students in need of peer tutorial assistance are directed to contact the Learning Skills Specialist on campus through Student Affairs. Though Student Affairs strives to accommodate all tutorial assistance requests, priority will be given to students who demonstrate need based on their academic performance.

The most successful students will practice the following behaviors:

First day

- Share contact information with the preceptor and learn what expectations of communication are.
- Ensure the preceptor has a copy of the PNWU syllabus for the course.
- Ask about the regular schedule, on-call expectations and notify the preceptor if there are any excused absence days (i.e. COMLEX exams).
- Find out where personal items may be placed and documentation can be done, as well as policies regarding student access to and documentation on medical records.
- Greet and be courteous to clinic staff. Be careful of joking, off-color humor or comments that could be misunderstood.
- Clarify expectations for the use of electronic aids.
- Ask if he/she should pre-round on hospital inpatients and clarify time and place for meeting daily.

Daily

- Be on time and prepared with what is needed.
- Greet and be courteous to clinic staff. Be careful of joking, off-color humor or comments that could be misunderstood. Review patients for the next day for topics to read on.
- Read or do modules on patients seen that day for reinforcement of learning.
- Log every day. Two to three cases logged every day will help get through the "must see" cases without last minute cramming.
- Be prepared to assist in any opportunities that present.
- Be enthusiastic. No matter what his/her area of interest is, there are things the student will be exposed to that may not be seen again in his/her career.

Weekly

- Participate in didactics.
- Be prepared with interesting cases he/she has seen throughout the week - help teach classmates.
- Return to his/her clinical responsibilities before/after didactics (this should not be a full day off!).
- Review progress on logs and the growth of his/her understanding.

Mid-Rotation (Optional on Electives but Encouraged)

- The student should request feedback on how he/she is doing. It is the student's responsibility to document the feedback on the mid-rotation feedback form and upload to Portfolio for future reference. Students should adjust performance based on that feedback.

End of Rotation

- The student should ask for a final review of his/her performance during the last week of the rotation. Students should be getting feedback from the preceptor informally daily on performance and areas needing improvement. Supplying the preceptor with a paper copy of the evaluation will help secure completion of the evaluation while the student's performance is fresh in the preceptor's mind. If the student has felt especially positive about the interactions, the student should consider asking the preceptor if he/she would be willing to write a strong letter of recommendation.