

# The Essentials of Advanced Practice Nursing **CLINICAL PRACTICUM I**



Thank you for working with our NP student this semester. Your assigned student is in their first clinical experience. The clinical practicum are comprised of immersion clinical experiences to engage the student in quality and varied clinical experiences.

The emphasis is on considering context while providing:

- ✓ Health promotion/disease prevention
- ✓ Risk reduction
- ✓ Clinical assessment, diagnosis, and management of common health problems

Students are in the beginning stages of knowledge development and role transition as an NP. Students should initially spend time observing the preceptor and require close supervision/direction as they adjust to the new role and setting.



## The target goal for students this semester is between 4-7 patients per 8-hour clinical day.

As skills and proficiencies increase, preceptors may allow more autonomy to perform basic elements. Skill development in the following areas is expected:



OBTAIN APPROPRIATE HISTORY FOR PRESENTING PROBLEM



PERFORM APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL EXAM AND INTERPRET FINDINGS



PROVIDE AN ORGANIZED H & P TO THE PRECEPTOR

Discussing the student's prior nursing experience, along with their goals/learning objectives may guide and improve the experience. Students are NOT expected to see every patient on your schedule. Students should be given time to review charts prior to seeing appropriately selected patients.

### Semester topics:

- NP role & function, health promotion & screenings, differential diagnosis/clinical reasoning
- Screening for common diseases: HTN, obesity, dyslipidemia, mental health, motivational interviewing
- Endocrine: thyroid, adrenal disease, Cushing's, Addison's, & DM/metabolic syndrome
- Pulmonary: asthma, COPD, bronchitis, lung CA, sleep apnea
- Neuro: headache, TMJ, CVA-TIA, concussion
- Geriatrics topics: risk reduction, back pain/joint pain, muscular-skeletal pain-common injuries



A comprehensive Preceptor Handbook is available at [preceptor.nursing.uconn.edu](http://preceptor.nursing.uconn.edu)

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