

PENNSSTATE



Module 9

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS IN CLINICAL EDUCATION

Positive Interpersonal Relationships in Clinical Education

- As a CP, you will be closely observed by ATs who desire to become an AT; therefore, it is extremely important that you demonstrate interpersonal relationships that encourage ATs regarding the profession of athletic training.

Clinical Preceptor and Athletic Training Student Relationships

- CPs must form appropriate and professional relationships with ATs.
- The CP must be seen as a professional supervisor by the ATs. Any relationship beyond that is inappropriate.

Clinical Preceptor Relationships

- CPs must model appropriate and professional interpersonal relationships when interacting with colleagues, patients/clients and administrators.
- An effective CP must demonstrate appropriate relationships with the individuals that he/she interacts with while performing his/her professional duties.
- Inappropriate relationships discourage future professionals and may constitute unethical behavior.

Advocating for Athletic Training Students

- CPs should appropriately advocate for ATs when interacting with colleagues, patients/clients and administrators.
- The ATs represent the future professional.
- The effective CP should advocate for ATs when discussing their involvement in the health care of patients/clients.

Clinical Preceptors as Positive Role Models

- CPs are a positive role model and mentor for ATs.
- The CP who does not serve as a positive role model discourages future ATs from entering the profession.
- Athletic training is an allied health care profession; thus the CP's behavior and interpersonal relationships should reflect this.

Nondiscrimination and Demeanor

- CPs must demonstrate respect for gender, racial, ethnic, religious and individual differences when interacting with people.
- Allied health care providers provide quality services to all individuals; hence, CPs must demonstrate this to ATs by their words and actions.
- CPs must have an open and approachable demeanor to ATs when working in the clinical setting.
- ATs want to learn from CPs. A CP that is not open and approachable creates an atmosphere where the AT feels that he/she is not welcomed and therefore will not seek the CP's instruction and evaluation.

Managing Problems with Athletic Training Students

1. Initial communication between CP(s) and ATS
 - Documentation recommended
2. Contact clinical education coordinator if repeated problems occur or severity of incident is extreme
 - Documentation recommended
3. Schedule meeting(s) between CPs, ATS, clinical education coordinator and program director to discuss conflict resolution
 - Documentation required