

[Name]
Personal Statement

Education and Teaching:

As the focus in primary care has shifted to emphasize patient-centered care, one of my focuses in teaching is how to build a trusting relationship with the patient and their families. I have been preceptor for one to two 1st year medical students for 3 hours every other week. For the first years, I try to focus on obtaining a patient history and organizing the findings into a note or presentation. I have also been a preceptor for 3rd year students. For these students, I focus on performing a targeted interview of the patient and thinking of a comprehensive differential.

Scholarship and Research:

Together with the clinic director, behavioral health partners, physical therapists, and various other participants, I have put together a program for a patient that targets major issues around treating chronic pain. We will gather data regarding pain and functioning prior to starting the group and at the end of the 6-session course. It is my hope that there will be significant improvement in pain scales, so that further development and implementation of chronic pain groups can be carried out.

Service to the University, Professions and Other Communities:

At the last mentorship event, I met with premedical students to discuss their upcoming interviews at medical schools. I also spoke with current medical students about picking a specialty and studying for Step One of the USMLE. I have also assisted the Medical Student Admissions Committee by interviewing student candidates.

Clinical Service:

I have worked as a primary care physician providing care to an underserved community. I have participated in subcommittees that work on improving the access to specialty care. As part of my involvement, I was a co-presenter. The presentation was focused on carrying out needs assessments in order to increase the availability of educational materials for patients.

Summary:

It makes me very proud to precept medical students as they often come from similar backgrounds as myself, and the patients we serve. I encourage them to use their rich experience when interacting with patients. I believe it is very important to help students to not just focus on the medicine and the diseases they are seeing, but instead think about the patient's whole experience. Patients from underserved communities often face many barriers to care and students should make it part of their practice to take those barriers into account when treating patients. I plan to continue my involvement in teaching current students and helping to bring in additional students, as well as my practice and projects as part of my commitment to the CDU Mission.