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Title: *Pharmacy Preceptor Development Needs Assessment*

Abstract

Purpose

Southern Illinois University School of Pharmacy preceptors work with students to help educate and prepare them for the work force. Preceptors play a pivotal role in enhancing student's knowledge and clinical training. It is required that programs offer a preceptor development program to assist their preceptors with the best ways to mentor students. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy wanted to gauge preceptors' current skills and comfort level with precepting to determine opportunities to enhance preceptor development in the future.

Methods

A 33-item survey was created to assess the skills and areas of interest for preceptor development. The survey consists of 4 different sections including a demographics section, preceptor skill set questions, interprofessional practice questions and preceptor development questions. The survey was sent out to 273 preceptors.

Results

Of the 273 preceptors that were sent the survey, 36 responses were evaluated in the study with a response rate of 13.2%. The most common areas of interest for further development were working with struggling students (55.88%), developing rotation activities/assignments (50.00%), managing time as a preceptor (35.29%) and enhancing student goal setting at (35.29%). 70.59% of preceptors have interprofessional collaborations with non-pharmacy healthcare professionals daily and 96.97% feel comfortable or somewhat comfortable involving students in these collaborations. The most popular method to receive continuing education was through on-demand online webinars (42.42%) with the preferred length of time being 1 hour in length (73.53%).

Conclusion

The information will allow the school to better serve their preceptors' development interest. By customizing preceptor development, the hope is to engage preceptors and enhance self-identified limitations to improve student instruction.