

# The Effective Pharmacy Preceptor

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# Dedication

**Mate M. Soric**

To my wife and family, your support throughout the writing and editing process has sustained me. To all of the preceptors from whom I learned, your example laid the foundation for the lessons contained in these pages. To my coauthors, your hard work and counsel made this book a reality.

**Stacey R. Schneider**

I dedicate this book to all of the preceptors and mentors who have inspired me to pursue my true passion and believed in me enough to know I would make it a reality. To all of my students who have taught me more about myself than I was able to teach them: you hold a special place in my heart. To my coauthors, I give my sincerest gratitude for providing me the opportunity to work with such brilliance, compassion, and dedication on this project.

**S. Scott Wisneski**

To my loving wife Diana for encouraging me through the many evenings and Sunday afternoons writing and editing this book. To all the Northeast Ohio Medical University preceptors who continually strive to provide positive learning experiences for our future pharmacists.





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# Preface

After years of preparation and training, pharmacists graduate into the healthcare environment prepared to effect meaningful improvements to patient care. We seek postgraduate training and board certification to further develop our skills. As we establish our practices and build relationships with the healthcare providers around us, we are often tasked with a challenge for which few of us are prepared: precepting pharmacists-in-training. Preceptor development is a topic rarely covered in pharmacy education, although pharmacists across the country are routinely asked to give back to their profession by precepting student and resident learners. Resources exist to help preceptors gain the skills and understand the theories of experiential education, but they are scattered across numerous sources, presented in an academic tone, or not comprehensive. As such, the quality of precepting can vary significantly from practitioner to practitioner.

In an effort to remedy this situation, we set out to create a practical, approachable guide for new and seasoned preceptors alike. *Part I, Building the Experience*, focuses on the topics of assessing a practice site for potential learning experiences, tailoring rotations to different learners, and writing a syllabus or learning experience description. *Part II, Conducting the Experience*, provides guidance for rota-

tion orientation, the best practices for delivering experiential education, learner evaluation, dealing with difficult situations, and guidance on how to effectively conclude a learning experience. *Part III, After the Experience*, goes beyond the confines of a single rotation to show where training future pharmacists fits into the big picture of your practice, with chapters covering career guidance, expansion of existing experiential offerings, and preceptor assessment.

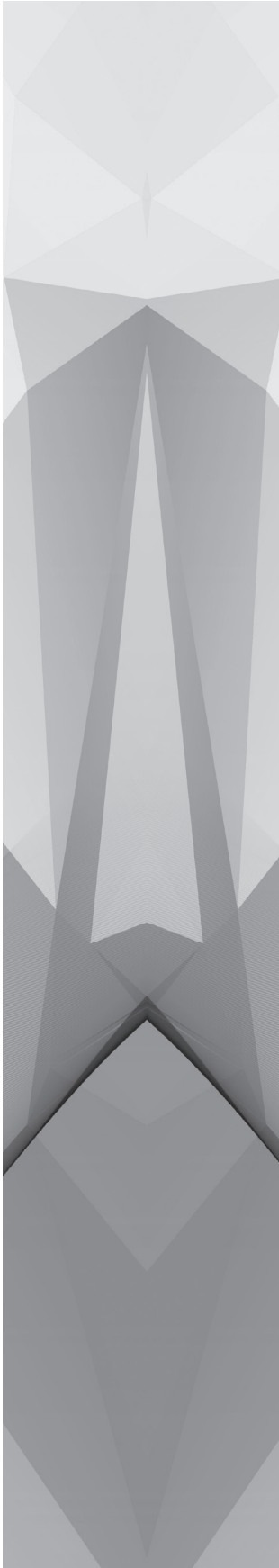
Throughout each of the chapters you will find common elements to enhance your learning. To anchor these concepts to the real world, cases are provided that demonstrate concepts in action. *Case Questions* will be used to promote critical thinking. If you are looking at the back of the book for an answer key, look no further than the contents of the chapter you've just read, as the questions are designed to help you apply the key points to the case scenario. *Quick Tips* are also scattered throughout the text to provide precepting pearls. For the busy preceptor looking for a quick reference, flip to the back of each chapter for an element called *The Gist*. Here, the essential points of the chapter are condensed into a handful of bullet points for easy review. Finally, if you are looking for a more thorough explanation of the contents of a chapter, seek out the Suggested Reading for detailed resources.

This work would not have been possible without the hard work of our contributing authors, Jack Bruggeman, Ruth Bloom, Robin Coleman, and the rest of the incredibly hard-working ASHP publishing team. We all sincerely hope you will use what you learn here to become an effective pharmacy preceptor, shaping future generations of pharmacists to come.

*Mate M. Soric*

*Stacey R. Schneider*

*S. Scott Wisneski*



# Part I

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## Building the Experience

1. The Lay of the Land: Assessing Your Practice Site for Learning Experiences ..... 3  
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