



A Survey Tool to Help Improve Clinical Placements in Long-Term Care

What is the purpose of this tool?

This tool will help to improve the quality of the preceptor, student or Internationally Educated Nurse (IEN) relationship during clinical placements in your long-term care (LTC) home. This tool provides a list of carefully selected questions to learn about placement experiences. Homes can then use the responses to make improvements to clinical placements. The information collected using this tool can contribute to continuous quality improvement in your LTC home.

How do I use this tool?

This tool contains two surveys to capture the experiences of the students, IENs and preceptors with the clinical placement program in LTC homes.

About the questions

The questions are designed to provide easy-to-interpret, tangible insights into how preceptors and students feel in their roles.

- The **STUDENT OR IEN SURVEY** is to be completed by students and IENs at the end of their placement. There are eleven questions. Nine questions use a response scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree. Two questions are open-ended.
- The **PRECEPTOR SURVEY** is to be completed by preceptors at the end of the placement. There are nine questions. Eight questions use a response scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree. One question is open-ended.
- The open-ended questions help to start a dialogue about the rewards and challenges of working and precepting in LTC.

What to do with the information received

The information you get from this tool can start meaningful ongoing conversations between LTC home administrators, students, IENs and preceptors.

As someone involved in the delivery of a clinical placement program, you may:

1. Think critically about questions answered on either extreme end of the scale,
2. Engage in conversations with preceptors and students to understand the “why,”
3. Move conversations beyond “why,” if a question was answered a certain way, to “how” you can make changes to improve this aspect of the experience and
4. Use positive experiences and quotes as one way to inspire other team members to become preceptors.

When used as described, you can use the information gained from these surveys and conversations to improve the quality of a placement program.

References

Cooper et al. (2020) *Measuring the quality of nursing clinical placements and the development of the Placement Evaluation Tool (PRE) in a mixed methods co-design project*. BMC Nursing. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12912-020-00491-1>

Nolan, M. R., et al. (2006). *The Senses Framework: Improving care for older people through a relationship-centred approach*. *Getting Research into Practice (GRiP) Report No. 2*. Sheffield Hallam University Research Archive. <http://shura.shu.ac.uk/280/>

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- Birgit Pianosi, C.P.G, Ph.D.

If you have any questions on this resource and the PREP LTC program, please contact prepltc@the-ria.ca.

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STUDENT OR INTERNATIONALLY EDUCATED NURSE SURVEY: Evaluating a clinical placement experience

Instructions

Think about your experience as a student or an internationally educated nurse during your clinical placement with this long-term care home. Complete the following eleven questions with this in mind. You are asked to respond on a scale from “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree” or to provide a written response.

Section A: Learning objectives

1. I was able to achieve my learning objectives.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

Section B: Orientation to the home and interprofessional team

2. The introduction to the residents, interprofessional team and space was helpful and increased my confidence regarding my placement.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

3. I felt included as a member of the care team and understood how I could contribute.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

Section C: Communication

4. I felt comfortable communicating my observations, questions and reflections to my preceptor.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

5. My ideas about resident care were listened to and acknowledged.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

Section D: Mentorship

6. There was adequate one-on-one supervision time spent with my preceptor.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

7. I received constructive feedback from my preceptor throughout the placement.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

Section F: Person-centered care

8. I was able to see how my actions, even small ones, can make a difference for a resident.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

Section G: Overall experience

9. I can see myself working in long-term care in the future.

- Strongly AGREE
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly DISAGREE

10. What was the most rewarding aspect of this placement in long-term care?

11. What was the most challenging part of this placement in long-term care?

Thank you for completing this survey. An administrator in this home will review your responses. They may share your responses with the preceptor. The information you provide will help this long-term care home make improvements to the clinical placement program for future students and internationally educated nurses.

End of the student and internationally educated nurse survey.

PRECEPTOR SURVEY: Evaluating a preceptor's clinical placement experience

Instructions

Think about your experience as a preceptor during the clinical placement with this long-term care home. Complete the following nine questions with this in mind. You are asked to respond on a scale from “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree” or to provide a written response.

Section A: Communication

1. I felt comfortable providing constructive feedback to the student.
 - Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE
2. I felt comfortable debriefing and reflecting on new experiences with the student.
 - Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE

Section B: Quality of supervision

3. I felt I had sufficient time to provide feedback to the student.
 - Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE
4. I felt I had the knowledge to carry out my role as a preceptor.
 - Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE
5. I felt I had support from my leadership team while precepting.
 - Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE

Section C: Supporting student growth

6. I felt I helped the student feel more confident and prepared to work in long-term care.
- Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE

Section D: Overall experience

7. I have an interest in continuing to be a preceptor for future students.
- Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE
8. I feel that being a preceptor contributed to the recruitment and retention of new team members.
- Strongly AGREE
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly DISAGREE
9. What was the most rewarding aspect of being a preceptor?

Thank you for completing this survey. An administrator in this home will review your responses. They may share your responses with the student or internationally educated nurse. The information you provide will help this LTC home make improvements to the clinical placement program for future students and internationally educated nurses.

End of the preceptor survey.