

I really enjoyed my site evaluations for my general surgery rotation. My evaluator was extremely thorough and went over every aspect of my H&P's and pharm cards. She explained to me the importance of certain aspects of my H&P and would discuss a patient where this information was important to her in her real life clinical experiences.

For my first site evaluation, I presented a patient who was suffering from hemorrhoids. The patient presented with pain upon defecation, wiping, and intermittent rectal bleeding. I was assisted doing my rectal exam with the attending physician. This was my first time assisting in a rectal exam and I definitely learned a tremendous amount. Upon the examination there were several internal hemorrhoids noted without prolapse. We recommended conservative treatment with increased fiber intake, water intake and sitz baths.

Discussing my drug cards the importance of type of form of the medication was given (pill, tablet, capsule) was stressed. This was new to me but I was explained the importance as this could have an effect on the therapeutic release within the patient.

The two evaluations I had for surgery rotation will definitely make me look at my H&P's and note taking in a more meticulous way. The importance of documenting every aspect of a patient's care and history is vital into providing the best treatment with the best therapeutic outcomes. Missing detailed aspects in a H&P can be problematic. Although the evaluations were extremely humbling as many comments and edits were suggested regarding my H&P I am grateful for what I learned.