# Advanced Practice Provider Experiences Precepting Nurse Practitioner Students

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In partnership with the Advanced Practice Provider Practice Committee in Fargo, ND

## INTRODUCTION

**Increase in nurse practitioner (NP) student enrollment**

- NP student enrollment has increased by 14.5% annually for past 10 years

**Shortage of qualified preceptors**

- Competition for advanced practice provider (APP) preceptors is high
- 94% of graduate nursing faculty report concern over lack of APP preceptors
- Lack of APP preceptors restricts NP enrollment

**Clinical preceptors feel undervalued**

- APP preceptors are not compensated in meaningful ways
- Lost personal time due to precepting is difficult to quantify
- APPs face challenges such as role strain, burnout, time constraints, and lack of resources when precepting

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

- High demand for APP preceptors is complicated by inadequate compensation, lost personal time, and many challenges to the precepting role

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1.Explore experiences of APP preceptors by conducting survey of 36 APP preceptors within Internal and Family Medicine departments regarding preceptor attitudes, existing and potential incentives to precept, and challenges and barriers of the preceptor role.

2.Explore experiences of APPs in the preceptor role at SHS by facilitating a focus group of five APP preceptors to identify qualitative themes regarding preceptor attitudes, existing and potential incentives to precept, and challenges and barriers of the preceptor role.

3.Quantify the extended working hours/lost personal time related to precepting of three participating APP preceptors over a three-month period

4.Disseminate the results and recommendations of the data collection tools via PowerPoint presentation and executive summary handout to the APP Council.

## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

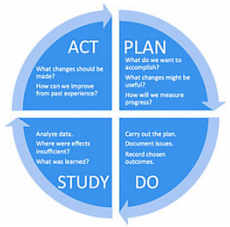
### Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Cycle

**Plan**

- Assemble team of APP Committee, DNP student, and dissertation committee
- Complete review of literature regarding APP preceptor experiences
- Develop survey for quantitative data collection
- Develop interview questions for qualitative data collection
- Develop hour tracking form to obtain data related to extended working hours and lost personal time when precepting
- Recruit APP participants

**Do**

- Administer survey via Qualtrics to APP preceptors
- Distribute hour tracking forms
- Conduct interviews
- Collect survey results
- Collect hour tracking results




**Study**

- Identify qualitative themes regarding preceptor attitudes and experiences
- Quantify extended working hours and lost personal time related to precepting
- Compare findings with current research on APP preceptor barriers

**Act**

- Develop recommendations to enhance APP preceptor experience at regional healthcare facility
- Present recommendations to APP Practice Committee by Spring 2021

## PROJECT DESIGN

**1. Setting:**

- Internal and Family Medicine department of healthcare facility in Fargo, ND

**Participants:**

- 36 APPs who serve as preceptors to nurse practitioner students
  - APPs include a variety of healthcare providers, for the sake of this project "APP" refers only to physician assistants (PA) and nurse practitioners (NP)

## PROJECT DESIGN CONTINUED

**Measurement tools:**

- Survey adapted from the 2015 and 2016 surveys developed by Roberts, Wheeler, Tyler, & Padden and facilitated by AANP
- Interview questionnaire developed by co-investigator
- Hour tracking form developed by principle investigator
  - Tracking over 3-month period

| Date | Time in | First appt | Student | Experience | Lunch break | Last Appt | # pts | Time out | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4/1 | 0800 | 0815 | Yes | 5th semester | charting | 1615 | 14 | 1745 | Student first day |
| 4/2 | 0805 | 0815 | No | N/A | charting | 1615 | 15 | 1700 | |
| 4/3 | 0750 | 0815 | Yes | 5th semester | charting | 1600 | 11 | 1715 | 3 No shows |

**Action plan:**

- Develop PowerPoint with recommendations based on survey results, hour tracking data, and literature review
- Present preceptor recommendations to APP Council at partnering facility

## EVALUATION PLAN

- Evaluate objective one and two using descriptive statistics to describe the sample and analyze survey data
- Evaluate objective three using content analysis to describe qualitative free text response data
- Evaluate objective four using central tendency
- Evaluate objective five using Likert Scale survey

## TIMELINE