

EVALUATING YOUR PRECEPTING TECHNIQUE

Some RDs are 'born' preceptors – but many are not. Luckily, the literature tells us that good precepting skills can be taught and learned. We hope that this training has enhanced your precepting skills but you may also want to self-evaluate. We've adapted the following self-evaluation questions from a tool used by nurse preceptors (Flynn, 1997), articles about effective precepting (Wolf & Dunlevy, 1996; Gates & Cutts, 1995), and comments by our alumni and students.

The goal, of course, is to move toward the right on these evaluation questions. We will also be asking the interns to complete this tool for each of their rotations, and you will be given their responses. By having both preceptors and interns complete the same evaluation, we hope to assist you in refining your precepting technique so that it is a good experience for both you and the interns.

PRECEPTORS' SELF-EVALUATION TOOL

Question	To a small extent	To a little extent	To a moderate extent	To a great extent	To a very great extent
I have provided a good learning environment by:					
giving the intern hands-on experience.					
being welcoming and prepared to work with the intern.					
being patient, supportive, and encouraging.					
demonstrating knowledge, confidence, and enthusiasm about continued learning.					
being energetic and enthusiastic about dietetics as a career.					
modeling good organization and time management.					
having high expectations of the intern.					
demonstrating integrity, respect for all people, and professional ethics.					
Any material I have asked the intern to learn is relevant, useful, and clearly organized.					
I asked questions to help the intern identify problems.					
I assisted the intern in understanding how to take appropriate action.					
I helped the intern consider alternative ways to deal with problems.					
I asked questions to help the intern evaluate the results of their actions.					
I have encouraged the intern to ask questions.					
I have not asked intimidating questions or demonstrated an intimidating manner.					
I have modeled professional behavior.					