Feedback is a vital and core component to the learning and development of healthcare students. For busy clinicians, giving feedback can seem tedious and laborious, but the development of competence is necessary for the health professional student and therefore, effective and formative feedback is essential for achieving competent students. When given honestly and accurately, feedback can help students meet their educational goals and create competent healthcare professionals. Giving effective feedback is not always easy and students often do not feel they have received adequate or helpful feedback. Effective feedback should never focus on the individual but rather on an action, behavior, or task. Feedback should always be accompanied with a specific action plan for improvement. Clear, specific, and direct guidance can promote and produce desired outcomes. The use of generalizations, adjectives, and adverbs has the potential to produce lower self-esteem, lack of confidence, and demotivation. Effective feedback should also be timely and frequent. If a desired change or outcome is expected, feedback should be given often enough to allow for the reception of the feedback, self-reflection, teaching, and learning. A longitudinal clinical environment is a good arena for giving frequent, effective feedback and allows for the growth and change to be seen.

Now that VPIL 1 students have completed their home visits, each preceptor will receive a synthesis and recommendation document from the student team. Since this is written based on the home visit encounter, the recommendations should reflect concerns identified from the visit. Hopefully this document will begin a dialog on how to improve care for this patient and family. We hope this experience will provide students perspective on short and long-term patient advocacy.
Cody Chastain, MD  
Clinic: General Infectious Diseases Clinic  
Medical Arts Building, VUMC

Dr. Chastain has been a physician for 10 years. He has been involved with VPIL since 2017.  
**How did you become involved in VPIL?**  
VPIL faculty reached out to me to see if I could precept a VPIL group. It has been a great opportunity to interact with students across disciplines, to emphasize interprofessional learning, and to improve my own practice of interdisciplinary care.  
**Why are you drawn to interprofessional collaboration?**  
In the field of infectious diseases, and particularly in the care of people living with HIV and viral hepatitis, interprofessional collaboration is the rule, not the exception. Physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, social workers, and others regularly collaborate to deliver optimal medical care for our patients. Incorporating interprofessional training into that environment is the natural next step of that care paradigm.  
**Any words of wisdom for VPIL students?**  
Look for unique opportunities to learn every day, whether from your patients, from coworkers, as well as from faculty. Be intentional in what you strive to learn and you will be more likely to achieve your goal.  
**Any words of wisdom for new VPIL preceptors?**  
Ask VPIL faculty for suggestions! Every VPIL program is unique, and the need of patients and the opportunities for students are different in each setting. Other VPIL clinics probably have best practices may help you incorporate students and teaching into your clinic flow.  
**What’s one fun fact people don’t know about you?**  
I have triplet sons who are in 3rd grade, are lots of fun, and keep me on my toes at all times.

Larry Prisco, LCSW  
Clinic: Adult Emergency Department

Larry Prisco has been a social worker for over 37 years and he has been involved with VPIL since 2014.  
**How did you become involved in VPIL?**  
The Emergency Department Educator at the time, Esther Payne and I were contacted and we decided to precept together. I had some familiarity with the program previously from when I had done some administrative work in what was then the Department of Social Work.  
**Why are you drawn to interprofessional collaboration?**  
I guess the obvious answer - no one profession can provide adequate health care without the assistance of several other professionals. When all
are functioning together as a team, the work provides better care to the patient. A really good team produces really good care.

**Any words of wisdoms for VPIL students?**
Relax, enjoy, don't take yourself or anyone else too seriously. Just do good, thoughtful, caring, work.

**Any words of wisdom for new VPIL preceptors?**
Same advice. Relax, enjoy, don't take yourself or anyone else too seriously. Just do good, thoughtful, caring, work.

**What's one fun fact people don't know about you?**
Most people know most everything about me - I'm pretty open --- I really love Liverpool Football!

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**Capstone Event**
April 10, 2019
5:00pm - 7:00pm
Eskind Biomedical Library

**Topics covered this month:**
- The Home Visit
- Recommendation Letter

**VPIL 1 Clinics**
- Adolescent & Young Adult Health
- Adult Emergency Department
- Comprehensive Care Clinic
- Stem Cell Transplant
- Mercury Courts
- Children’s Hospital PICU
- Otolaryngology
- Peds Gastroenterology
- Peds Neurogenetics & Metabolism
- Eskind Adult Diabetes
- Vanderbilt Opryland Clinic

**VPIL 2 Clinics**
- Cardiac Surgery
- Comprehensive Care Clinic
- Drug Dependency OB/GYN
- General Pediatrics
- Psychiatry Psychotic Disorders
- Peds Hematology/Oncology
- Pediatric Surgery
- Vanderbilt Family Medicine
- General Infectious Disease
- Internal Medicine and Pediatrics
- Vanderbilt Urgent Care
- Osher - Integrative Medicine
- Metro Clinics

Visit the Preceptor Portal on our website! The portal includes an overview of the program, what the students are learning throughout their 2 years in the program, what to expect when being a preceptor, helpful hints on what to do during downtime, and much more!

**Preceptor Portal**

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