

Comparison of Elements of Structure

ELEMENT	DESCRIPTION	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Rotation	4 to 6 weeks spent focused on just one area of learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distraction minimized ▪ Related goal areas can be taught together ▪ Short duration facilitates exposure to varied patient populations ▪ Scheduling flexibility ▪ Enables bonding with medical students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limits on the practice time needed to develop independent problem-solving skills ▪ Difficult to assess growth in skills over short period
Longitudinal learning experience	Regularly scheduled, intermittent experience with a specific focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resident has time to build confidence in the practice area ▪ Opportunity to integrate elements of a full practice ▪ Offers sufficient practice time to develop independent problem-solving skills ▪ Patterns of practice become evident ▪ Offers depth of experience ▪ Sufficient time in place to assess growth in skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pull-out effect may have negative effect on other learning experiences
Concentrated learning experience	Less than 4 weeks spent with the same preceptor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunity to learn prerequisites for other learning experiences in a concentrated fashion ▪ Efficient way to teach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Insufficient time to develop depth of learning ▪ Insufficient time to develop independent problem-solving skills

ELEMENT	DESCRIPTION	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Extended learning experience	6 to 8 weeks spent with the same preceptor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resident has time to build confidence in the practice area ▪ Offers sufficient practice time to develop independent problem-solving skills ▪ Facilitates preceptor/resident bonding ▪ Sufficient time in place to assess growth in skills ▪ Promotes skills in integrating practice ▪ Provides sufficient time in place to enable teaching ▪ Patterns of practice become evident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limits the number of patient populations that can be worked with ▪ Scheduling out of synch with students and medical residents