PAS Program Clinical Conduct Policy
GVSU PAS students are representatives of GVSU and the PA profession. The following statements must be strictly adhered to for the student's protection and the protection of patients seen by student learners. Failure to comply with this policy will result in a referral to the PAS Program Student Academic Life Committee, PAS Program Director, and/or PAS Department Chair for disciplinary and professional review as outlined in the PAS Program Student Policy for Disciplinary and Professionalism Review.

All GVSU PAS students must:

1. Consistently demonstrate their concern for the welfare of the patient. Be thoughtful and professional when obtaining the history and performing the physical exam. Treat patients with respect and dignity, both in their interactions with them and in their patient-related discussions with other professionals. Demonstrate their concern not only for the medical problem but for the total patient.

2. Conscientiously respect the rights of their colleagues. Characterize all their professional encounters with cooperation and consideration. Strive to assume an appropriate and equitable share of patient care duties.

3. Approach their responsibilities with dedication. Be truthful in ALL personal and professional communications. When meeting multiple demands, establish patient-centered priorities to guide them in the completion of such work.

4. Maintain confidentiality of medical records & health history information and compliance with all HIPAA requirements. All data gathered about the patient and his/her illness, including all items within a patient's medical history, is privileged information.
   a. Learners should not discuss or present patient records in a manner or situation which would violate the confidential nature of that record.
   b. Charts or contents, e.g., lab reports, etc., are not to be removed from the hospital or clinical setting, either physically or electronically.

5. Maintain accurate and thorough patient records, including a preceptor review and countersignature for all records. On each clinical rotation, it is the learner's responsibility to ensure that ALL patients seen by the learner are also seen by the supervising clinician. PAS learners are not to see, treat, or manage patients independently. The supervising preceptor should review and countersign all learner notes written in the medical records or entered into electronic medical records. Under no circumstances should a PA student sign prescriptions or order them in a medical record. The only signature or name of ordering physician that should appear on a prescription is that of the clinical supervisor.

6. Obtain countersignature by a licensed medical supervisor before any trainee order is executed. Under no circumstances should a PA student initiate orders for any patient on any rotation without immediate consultation and countersignature of the clinical supervisor.

7. Maintain professional interactions on social media, online communications, and other technical communications. These platforms are to be treated as public forums. Students must represent themselves, their school, and their profession positively.

8. Properly identify themselves as a GVSU PAS student learner by wearing their GVSU PAS program student identification badge. Role and title confusion are common problems encountered in dealing with patients, (e.g., some patients identify all those

wearing white coats as physicians). Learners should be aware of this problem and avoid misrepresentation by politely explaining their role and position.

    a. In professional interactions with patients and others, a learner should introduce themselves as a "PA Student."

    b. Learners should use the designation, PA-S1, (First-year PA Learner), PA-S2 (Second-year PA learner), PA-S3 (Third-year PA learner) following all notations in charts, records, and other medical forms, e.g., "Mary Blue, PA-S2."

    c. In all professional communications, including paging or beepers, a learner should introduce him/herself as a "PA Student." No learner should casually accept the 'page' of a provider/preceptor.