# Practice Gap Identification

***Directions***: After performing a needs assessment with the practicum site decision maker(s), use the following table to help you understand what gaps are occurring between current practice and evidence-based practice (EBP). An example is provided for you below.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| What is currently happening in the practicum site? | What should be happening in the practicum site based on current evidence? | What is the gap between what is currently happening and what should be happening (this is your practice gap)? | Why is there a gap in practice? What factors are contributing to the gap in practice? | What evidence do you have to demonstrate there is a practice gap? |
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***Example***: Pediatric Practice

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| What is currently happening in the practicum site? | What should be happening in the practicum site? | What is the gap between what is currently happening and what should be happening (this is your practice gap)? | Why is there a gap in practice? What factors are contributing to the gap in practice? | What evidence do you have to demonstrate there is a practice gap? |
| There are no clinical practice guidelines for the management of obese patients in a pediatric setting being used at the practicum site. | Nurse Practitioners (NPs) should be using evidence-based clinical practice guidelines to better manage children who are obese | Approximately 40% of the patient population have been identified as being obese; however, there are no clear processes/guidelines in place for the NPs to use/follow when planning patient care. | Potential issue with lack of knowledge associated with updated guidelines for pediatric obesity.  Physician-owned facility; potential lack of NP autonomy in regard to practice. | Comments provided by the NPs.  NPs report they want to be able to better manage and plan care for pediatric patients who are obese. |