The Ask-Tell-Ask Feedback method fosters students' abilities to identify their own strengths and areas for improvement as well as provides preceptors with the opportunity to share positive and constructive feedback to students. The strengths of this model include that it is learner-centered, fosters students’ self-assessment skills, increases students’ accountability for learning, gives the preceptors insight into students’ perceptions of performance, encourages preceptors to provide specific feedback, and can be used across a variety of settings.

Example 1
Setting: Outpatient
Task Area: Patient Assessment (History-Taking, Physical Exam)

Preceptor: What parts of your assessment of the patient went well?
Student: My problem-focused history-taking seemed complete and only took about five minutes to do.
Preceptor: I agree, your history-taking was thorough and efficient. You also clarified important information that the patient shared during the pertinent review of systems.
Preceptor: What do you think could be improved?
Student: My approach to the physical exam felt disjointed and took longer than I thought necessary.
Preceptor: Yes, while you included essential elements of the physical exam, it was not systematic and the patient had to be repositioned several times. A strategic way to avoid this in the future is to develop a plan for the physical exam before you initiate the exam.

Example 2
Setting: Inpatient
Task Area: Medical Knowledge, Clinical Reasoning

Preceptor: What elements of the diagnosis and treatment planning went well?
Student: I am confident in the most likely diagnosis, and the first-line therapy was appropriate for this patient.
Preceptor: Yes, I believe you came to the correct conclusion about the diagnosis. In addition to knowing which medication is first-line therapy, remember to specify dose/route/frequency and any patient education that is indicated.
Preceptor: What do you think could be improved?
Student: Well, I only had three disorders on my differential diagnosis.
Preceptor: I agree that it is important to have a broader differential diagnosis. I encourage you to read more about the most likely diagnosis and related conditions tonight, then tomorrow we can discuss the clinical reasoning about the diagnosis.