

What's Next?

Emerging Roles of Pharmacists and
How to Stay Active in the Profession



Emerging Roles Of Pharmacists

- Employment in 2010:
 - 274,900
- Projected employment for 2020:
 - 344,600 (25% change in employment)
- Examples of expanding roles for pharmacists include:
 - Informatics Pharmacists
 - Board Certified Specialty Pharmacists
 - Consultant Pharmacists
 - Decentralized Pharmacists
 - Disease State Management Services
 - Written Protocols with Physicians



Informatics Pharmacists

- Design, implement, train, and maintain complex technologies to facilitate and automate the medication use process
- Examples of technologies utilized:
 - Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE)
 - Robotics/Carousels
 - Clinical Decision Support Systems
 - Automated Dispensing Cabinets
 - Bar-Code Medication Retrieval and Administration
 - Smart Pumps
- Skilled in human factors, patient safety, and use of technology to optimize the care delivery process and effectively communicate care activity



Board Certified Specialty Pharmacists

- Nearly 13,000 BPS board certified pharmacists in the U.S.
- Six specialty areas:
 - Oncology
 - Psychiatric
 - Pharmacotherapy
 - Ambulatory Care
 - Nuclear
 - Nutrition Support
- Assist in designing or modifying existing medication regimens; monitor for and prevent adverse medication reactions; customize medication regimens for patients taking multiple medications; and recommend most effective treatments
- By 2016, the Board of Pharmacy Specialties plans to double the number of specialties for which pharmacists can become BPS board certified
 - Possible specialties for certification: critical care, pediatric, infectious disease, cardiology, and pain and palliative care



Consultant Pharmacists

- Provide advice on medication use for individual patients and also protocols and policies
- Originated in the nursing home environment
- Now practice in a wide variety of environments including:
 - Assisted living facilities
 - Psychiatric hospitals
 - Prisons
 - Pain Clinics
 - Hospice Programs
- Consultant pharmacists are now more recognized for what they do instead of where they practice



Decentralized Pharmacists

- Decentralized pharmacists work in many units of a health system
 - ED, critical care unit, NICU, joint unit, and senior specialty unit
- Pharmacists work with the hospital care team and make different recommendations concerning medication use such as:
 - Reviewing medication orders and profiling
 - Antibiotic stewardship
 - Code teams
 - Drug interactions
 - Evaluating core measures concerning
 - HF, AMI, VTE, stroke, pneumonia, and surgery care patients
 - Education:
 - Patient
 - Hospital Staff
 - Pain Management



Staying Active in the Profession

- Collaborate with other healthcare professionals
- Recertification
- Stay up to date with literature through memberships and listservs
 - AAHP, ASHP, APhA, ACCP, etc.
- Conduct your own literature searches
 - Web searches, on demand web activities, webinars, or live meetings
- Become involved in social media
 - Facebook @, ASHP Connect, etc.



Staying Active in the Profession



- Hand-off communication
- Become a preceptor
- Stay politically active
- Develop lifelong learning habits



Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

- Lifelong learning habits are key to providing patients with the highest level of care
- Concept involves healthcare professionals reflecting personally on their practice to:
 - Assess their knowledge and skills
 - Identify deficits or needs
 - Formulate an individualized learning plan of action
 - Assess the effectiveness of their educational interventions
- Not a replacement for CE



Traditional CE Model vs CPD

	CE	CE + CPD
Needs	Pre-determined	Self-identified
Motivation	External	Internal
Relevance	May be absent	High
Measure	Process (hrs)	Outcomes (learning/impact)
Duration	Isolated event	Ongoing, cyclical
Directed by	Others	Self
Process	Passive	Active/Proactive



Continuing Professional Development Cycle



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Closing Remarks

- Staying up to date is the best way to provide the greatest care for our patients
- Being a pharmacist is a privilege that comes with the responsibility of lifelong learning



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