



EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAMS

Preceptor Name: Kristina Ward, PharmD
Address: Drug Information Services
201A Fogarty Hall
Kingston, RI 02881
Email address: kward@uri.edu
Phone: 401-874-7484

Rotation Description

Location: Drug Information Services, 201A Fogarty Hall, Kingston, RI 02881

**** Students should contact Dr. Ward by email (kward@uri.edu) two weeks prior to start of rotation.**

Site Description Information:

The clinical clerkship at Drug Information Services is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to respond to drug information requests from healthcare professionals and consumers. A systematic and stepwise approach to searching for drug information will be emphasized. Students will become familiar with the use of various drug information resources such as textbooks, electronic media, and indexing/abstracting services along with the advantages and disadvantages of each. Additionally, students will be introduced to the principles of Therapeutic Policy Management (e.g., formulary management, guidelines for drug use, medication use evaluation) and medical writing.

Goals/Objectives:

A. Drug Information

1. Provide concise, applicable, and accurate responses to requests for drug information from healthcare providers and patients

To complete this objective the following is required:

- Accurate identification the requestor's drug information need by determining if the question is patient-specific, gathering appropriate and sufficient background information, and identifying the request urgency
- Determine from all retrieved biomedical literature the appropriate information to evaluate and evaluate the usefulness of the biomedical literature gathered.
- Formulate a response to the drug information request based on analysis of the evaluated biomedical literature

2. Answer questions efficiently by developing a systematic and rational search strategy based on the type of question asked and information required.

To complete this objective the following is required:

- Knowledge of how to use the available resources so that appropriate sources of information are consulted
- Demonstrate the ability to formulate a systematic, efficient, and thorough procedure for retrieving drug information

3. Communicate clearly when speaking or writing

To complete this objective the following is required:

- Organize all written and oral communications in a logical manner
- Address all communication at a level appropriate for the audience
- Use correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, style, and formatting in the preparation of written communication
- Speak clearly and distinctly
- Use public speaking skills to speak effectively in large and small group situations
- Use listening skills effectively in the performance of job functions
- Prepare all communications so that they reflect a positive image

4. Write newsletter articles that provide pertinent medication-use information for healthcare professionals

5. Understand the benefits and limitations of a formulary system

To complete this objective the following is required:

- Explain the process for developing, implementing, and maintaining a formulary
- Prepare drug monographs that conform to acceptable guidelines to make recommendations for formulary status of medications
- Make recommendations for drug class decisions based on comparative reviews

6. Understand the process for reporting an adverse event or medication error

To complete this objective the following is required:

- Explain factors to consider when developing or revising policies for assessing, managing, preventing, and reporting adverse drug reactions and describe the components of an efficient ADR program
- Explain the process for conducting an organized, integrated approach for minimizing medication errors

7. Understand the concept of medication use evaluation and its precursors

To complete this objective the following is required:

- Explain the difference between a drug utilization review, drug use evaluation, and a medication use evaluation
- Design a MUE with specific and appropriate methodology and data collection tools that are easy to follow

B. Professional

1. Take personal responsibility for attaining excellence in one's own ability to provide pharmaceutical care

- Develop a philosophy of practice that matches with the tenets of pharmaceutical care
- Display initiative for the task at hand

2. Maintain a professional image
 - Dress in attire that conveys a professional image
 - Consistently maintain personal self-control and professional decorum
3. Use an organized system for staying current with the pertinent literature and select a core library appropriate for a specific practice setting
 - Use a knowledge of standard resources to select a core library of primary, secondary, and tertiary references appropriate for a specific practice setting
4. Accept responsibility for accurate evaluation of one's own work
 - Develop and implement an effective system for assessing the quality and accuracy of one's own work
 - Consistently assess the quality of one's own work independent of the evaluation of others
5. Understand the appropriate relationship between the pharmacist and the pharmaceutical industry
 - Discuss the importance of establishing policies and procedures for working with the pharmaceutical industry
 - Discuss an appropriate working relationship with the pharmaceutical industry including ethical considerations

Projects and/or required activities:

Assignments for this course will be handled "paperless" as much as possible. At a minimum, the written assignments and presentations for this clerkship will include: a drug monograph or class review, a comprehensive drug therapy newsletter article (final presentation will be based on this article), weekly journal club presentations, facilitation of the P1 IAL class, and drug information resource presentations. Any late assignments, including drafts, will result in the lowering of the total grade for the assignment by 10% for each day it is late. Additional assignments at the discretion of the facilitator **should** be expected. Students will also be responsible for covering the Drug Information Services phone line according to the posted schedule and answering drug information questions that may come into Drug Information Services via other means.

Hours of service (please indicate if evening hours are required):

Rotation hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5PM.

Site restrictions (Examples body piercing, artificial nails):

Students are expected to dress in a professional manner with no undergarments showing. Ornamentation with body piercing (except ear rings) is discouraged on this rotation.