

Psychiatric Pharmacy Clerkship -PHP 593 or PHC 594 Pharmacotherapy Track
Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Providence, RI
Rob Dufresne, Ph.D., BCPS, BCPP
Associate Professor of Pharmacy

Description of Rotation

The student will participate in providing pharmaceutical care to both inpatient and outpatient psychiatric patients. This will occur in conjunction with the treatment team both on the inpatient psychiatry unit and in the outpatient section under the direction of Dr. Dufresne in his general psychiatric and schizophrenia treatment clinics. Participation in another outpatient clinic will involve supervision by Ronald Paolino, Ph.D., R-Ph. The student will be expected to give at least one oral inservice type presentation and to do one comprehensive paper on an agreed upon subject. They also will also provide discharge medication counseling to psychiatric inpatients at the VA. Participation on special projects and additional clinical experiences with other outpatient teams and clinicians are possible to meet the interests and needs of the individual student. Numerous educational opportunities in psychiatric assessment and pharmacotherapy are provided in the Psychiatric Multidisciplinary Team as the VA is a teaching hospital affiliated with the **Brown** University Medical School as well as the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy.

Rotation Activities and Assignments

1. Attend the weekly psychiatry interview skill training session on Thursday morning.
2. Attend the Psychiatry Grand Rounds on Wednesday at NOON and at other times when possible.
3. Assess the patients in your care as necessary and develop a pharmacotherapy plan.
4. Discuss any recommendations with the attending, student, and the members of the treatment team.
5. Provide discharge medication counseling to all the inpatients on your team.
6. Participate in special projects such as DUE's and clinical research as agreed upon at the beginning of the rotation.
7. Attend meetings of the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee and participate in projects as required.

8. Participate in Dr. Paolino's and Dr. Dufresne's outpatient clinics when possible.

Rotation Goals and Learning Objectives

1. -The student will be able to provide care of patients with a psychiatric disorder in a team setting.
2. The student will be able to conduct a psychiatric interview and use this information to determine a course of pharmacotherapy.
3. The student will be able to design and implement a pharmacotherapy plan in a psychiatric patient and monitor the outcome.
4. The student will be able to use the computer database, medical records, direct patient assessment, and interactions with team members to identify and resolve drug therapy problems.
5. The student will be able to conduct an informative and useful inservice in psychiatric pharmacotherapy.
6. Provide medication use education to patients and those that care for them.
7. Document all pharmaceutical care given using appropriate techniques.
8. Participate in the VAMC mechanism for reporting adverse drug events.
9. Be able to assess drug induced side effects in a psychiatric patient and perform an assessment of drug induced movement disorders using such instruments as the AIMS exam, Barnes Akathisia Scale, and REPS scale.
10. Be able to assess psychiatric symptomatology using appropriate rating instruments for patients in their care.