

## **PHP 591 - COASTAL MEDICAL, INC.**

### **Ambulatory Care Rotation**

**Faculty Member - Kathleen Melbourne, PharmD, RPh, CDOE**

Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy, URI College of Pharmacy

Director of the Pharmacy Care Management Program

Coastal Medical, Inc.

### ***Coastal Medical / URI Clinical Partnership Pharmaceutical Care in Private Physicians' Offices***

The clinical rotation at Coastal Medical is designed to offer highly motivated Pharm.D. students unique learning opportunities in an innovative private physician's group practice setting. In one of our 14 office locations throughout Rhode Island, you can become actively involved in:

- direct patient care (adult and elderly ambulatory patients)
- patient interviewing
- collaborative practice with physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician's assistants
- disease state management initiatives (diabetes, hyperlipidemia, asthma, HIV/AIDS)
- chart reviews to screen for medication-related problems
- assessments of drug therapy regimens for optimal outcomes
- design/monitoring of pharmacotherapeutic plans
- telephone follow-ups with patients who have medication-related questions or problems
- telephone follow-ups with community pharmacists who call the doctor's office with questions and/or patient problems
- provision of drug information to physicians and patients
- in-office follow-up of patients recently discharged from the hospital

#### **About the Coastal Medical**

Coastal Medical, Inc. is a private medical group comprised of approximately 60 primary care physicians, with 12 distinct office practices located throughout Rhode Island. The offices offer Primary Care (Internal Medicine) in addition to specialized care in the areas of Cardiology, Pulmonology, Infectious Diseases/HIV/Hepatitis C, Women's Health, and Pediatrics. The Coastal Medical business and management office is located in Providence, Rhode Island.

Many Coastal Medical offices are directly involved with our Pharmacy Care Management Program and have clinical pharmacists and/or students on site to provide pharmaceutical care to patients scheduled for medical follow-up and/or new appointments. The physicians have welcomed the opportunity to work with clinical pharmacists and Pharm.D. students, who can provide innovative pharmaceutical care services to their patients and improve outcomes.

The other Coastal Medical offices take advantage of the Pharmacy Program via fax consult service, referrals for home visits, and drug information services via pager. The pharmacists also visit all the physicians' practices to review prescribing data and share suggestions for optimal medication use. The use of generic medications and formulary medications is promoted to enhance the cost-effectiveness of care.

### Coastal Medical Offices (for student rotations):

North Main Street, Providence, RI  
Crossroads, Cranston, RI  
Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence, RI  
Reservoir Avenue, Providence, RI

East Greenwich, RI  
Elmhurst, Providence, RI  
Greenville, RI  
Newport, RI

### **About the Coastal Medical Rotation:**

This rotation requires *highly motivated students* who will take the initiative to introduce him/herself to medical and non-medical staff, explain his/her role to patients and providers, and demonstrate the ability to communicate therapeutic recommendations effectively. Students will observe and participate with clinical pharmacists who take care of patients under a collaborative practice arrangement with primary care physicians. Students will meet as a group with preceptors to review patient cases and discuss therapeutics of common chronic disease states such as hyperlipidemia, hypertension, diabetes, asthma/COPD, HIV/AIDS, anticoagulation, GERD, allergic rhinitis, and pain management. Students will have the opportunity to develop clinical and professional skills in the context of an excellent medical and pharmacy collaborative team; and to do so in an innovative practice setting. Students will develop writing skills that will enable them to perform in a clinical setting, including writing progress notes for the medical records. The student will get feedback from preceptors throughout the rotation and will be encouraged to advance his/her skills. Students will see pharmacy from a very different perspective and will gain a tremendous amount of insight into the practice of medicine!

### **Objectives of the Pharmacy Care Management Program:**

- (1) To improve Coastal patient care therapeutic outcomes by integrating clinical pharmacists and Doctor of Pharmacy students (pharmaceutical care) into the delivery of primary care.
  - a. decrease medication-related problems
  - b. improve patients' adherence to medication schedules
  - c. improve patients' knowledge of medications
  - d. decrease avoidable patient ER visits and hospitalizations
- (2) To decrease overall costs of care to Coastal patients through the cost-effective use of therapeutic agents and diagnostics.

### **Preceptors**

- The Director of the Pharmacy Care Management Program, Dr. Kathleen Melbourne, will be the primary preceptor for all PharmD students at Coastal Medical. Contact information: phone 781-2400 (400 Reservoir Ave, Providence, RI); pager 969-9588. Email: [kmelbour@etal.uri.edu](mailto:kmelbour@etal.uri.edu)
- Dr. Anne VanHaaren, clinical pharmacist at Coastal Medical, Inc., will also be a preceptor for students on rotation at Coastal Medical. Contact information: cell phone (401) 486-0182 Email: [vancanals@cox.net](mailto:vancanals@cox.net)
- The Coastal/URI Primary Care Resident and the MIM Health Plan Managed Care Resident may also be involved in precepting students on rotation at Coastal Medical.