

**Advanced Practice Experience: PHP 593 or PHC 594 Pharmacotherapy Track
Geriatric Medicine**

Norma J. Owens, Pharm.D.
Preceptor

General Description and responsibilities:

Steere House Nursing Home and Rehabilitative Center is a teaching affiliated not-for-profit nursing home located on the grounds of the Rhode Island Hospital campus at 100 Borden Street, Providence, RI 02903. The telephone number is 454-7970.

The services provided by Steere House are best thought of by the geographic location of the nursing wards in the facility. The first floor contains two units: a general medical ward with nursing home care and “Safe Haven”, a community for patients in the early stages of Alzheimer’s disease.

The second floor is a skilled nursing care environment with approximately 40 beds. Patients admitted to this floor generally arrive from an acute-care hospital and require a short stay (less than 3 months) for a more full surgical or medical recovery. Patients are usually discharged either to home or another facility.

The third floor of Steere House is an Alzheimer’s and Related Dementia ward.

Morning Activities: The student should spend the morning hours reviewing patient charts and interviewing patients where possible.

Clinical activities with the sub-acute patients generally occur in the mornings and the student should be prepared to participate in these activities. Exact times can be determined by contacting the nurse practitioner for this unit (either Clarisse Dexter or Mary Ann Hurley)

Patient Care Conferences:

Patient care conferences for the long-term residents of Steere House take place on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 PM. Generally, these meetings last approximately 2-3 hours. The Director of Nursing generates a monthly schedule of patients for this conference.

Patient care conferences for the sub-acute patients from the second floor take place on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 or by schedule. It is important to check the scheduling of patients for this conference prior to each Wednesday as patients may be discharged quickly.

Interdisciplinary activities with other allied health students: Once weekly, interdisciplinary activities may take place with College of Nursing, social work, and medical school students. This activity should provide Doctor of Pharmacy students with collaborative relationships in order to better learn how referrals, reports, and communication occurs for community residing frail older persons. This activity may take place at the Traveler's Aid van and or the prison health care system.

Pharmacy Preceptor Rounds: Periodically in the early afternoons, we will meet to discuss your patients and other issues. Be prepared to present your patients using a problem-based system. Be prepared to SOAP the pharmacotherapy issues.

Pharmacy Journal Club: Every week for about one hour we will meet to review some interesting recent literature relating to the pharmacotherapy of geriatric syndromes or conditions. Students should select an article from a medicine, geriatric, or pharmacy journal such as the *N Engl J Med*, *Ann Intern Med*, *Lancet*, *Pharmacotherapy*, *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*, *J Am Geriatr Soc*, etc. The article chosen for review should be distributed to the participants of journal club. Examples of geriatric syndromes include delirium, dementia, Parkinson's disease, pain in the elderly, incontinence, depression, etc. A teaching file is maintained in room 411 with some pertinent background literature on these topics.

Patient Care Responsibilities: A three-ring binder with Steere House patient monitoring forms and records should be used to document clinical activity. Use a consistent approach to establish a pharmacotherapy database on every patient you monitor and add these forms to the three ringed binder.

When generating a pharmacotherapy database on your patient, remember to interview the patient whenever possible. Be careful in fully listing all medication the patient is taking. Use some type of form that allows for routine follow-up information (such as labs). Ask me for examples if you do not have a favorite monitoring form.

Developing Communication Skills: One written drug information question or newsletter type article will be turned into the preceptor every other Friday afternoon. Drug information questions should be about a pharmacotherapy issue from one of your service patients or a general issue that arises during discussion times. Students will alternate their journal club and drug information question activities on Friday afternoons.

Developing Analytical Skills: A project will be completed for this rotation. This project may involve developing a critical treatment pathway for a common disease in long-term care, developing some type of formulary guidance for appropriate pharmacotherapy, analysis of the patient care database for DUR purposes, etc. The student may select a project of their own interest – however the project should benefit both the clinical care of patients and the facility by improving drug therapy in older adults.

Rotation Schedule for Geriatric Medicine					
	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
8:00		Grand Rounds George Aud	Interdisciplinary student activity		
9:00	Work rounds, 2 nd floor				Work rounds, 2 nd floor
11:00				Journal club?	
12:00					Pharmacy preceptor rounds
1:30	Pharmacy preceptor rounds	Patient care conference, long- term residents	Patient care conference		
2:30					
3:30					

Dr. Owens' Projected Calendar - Fall 2002					
444-4068 or 874-2734 NormaOwens@uri.edu					
	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
8:00					
9:00					
10:00					
11:00					
12:00				URI	
1:00	Pharmacy rounds or PHP 555	Patient care conference	Patient care conferences	University College Advising at Roosevelt	Pharmacy preceptor rounds
2:00					
3:00					
4:00					
		Seminar?	Seminar?		