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Preceptor Newsletter



Message from the Experiential Team

Hello, and welcome to the third edition of our HSC College of Pharmacy Experiential Newsletter! As we are underway in this new fall semester we are excited to welcome the P1 Class of 2025 as well as welcome our P2s and P3s back to campus. We thank you as our preceptors for a successful summer of Community and Hospital IPPE rotations and a fantastic start to the Class of 2022's APPE year. We are also excited to begin planning for the 2022-2023 IPPE and APPE year and will soon begin the process of collecting your availability through November. We hope that this newsletter serves as an informative and helpful resource for you. A continuing education article as well as links to our online CE, free for preceptors, is enclosed. Wishing you a safe and happy fall!

Happy Pharmacists Month!

HSC College of Pharmacy is joining the celebrations in October for Pharmacists Month. Specifically, during October 18th through 22nd, National Pharmacy Week is celebrated with a variety of student-led activities including keynote presentations and awards. Pharmacy Week will culminate with our first annual HSCCP Pharmacy Showcase, including poster sessions and tours. Many students, including P4s, will be presenting research and practice posters.

Welcome New PharmD Class - Class of 2025

HSC College of Pharmacy is excited to welcome 100 students to the class of 2025 this fall. Students are joining us from a variety of undergraduate schools including University of North Texas main campus. With the return to on campus learning Class of 2025 has been able to hit the ground running this fall semester and had their White Coat ceremony on August 20th.



Campus Updates for Preceptors

Fall Campus Reopening

- Students returned to campus for in-person classes this Fall semester on August 16, 2021

Curriculum Updates Pharmacy Year 1

- Changed Immunology course from Fall of PY2 to Spring

Pharmacy Year 2

- Integrated Cardiovascular and Renal IPT courses into the Fall as Cardiorenal I and Cardiorenal II
- Shifted Pharmacology of Infectious Disease course from PY1 to Fall PY2
- Infectious Diseases IPT moved from PY3 to Spring PY2 to immediately follow Pharmacology of Infectious Disease
- Changed Pharmacokinetics course from Spring to Fall PY2

Pharmacy Year 3

- Changed Hematology, Oncology and Transplant IPT course from Spring to Fall PY3
- Shifted Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders IPT course from Spring to Fall PY3
- Shifted Respiratory and Gastro-Intestinal IPT course from Fall to Spring PY3, will be offered to PY2 in Spring moving forward

Certificate Programs

- Open to professionals and students interested in career specialization
- Applied Health Outcomes Research
 - Drug Discovery and Development
 - Pharmacometrics

Save the Date!

Pharmacy Week

- October 18 – 22, 2021

UNTHSC Pharmacy Showcase

- Friday, October 22, 2021
- 1:00pm – 4pm

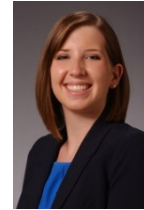
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Continuing Education Article Vaccine Updates You May Have Missed During the Pandemic

Crystal Howell, PharmD, BCIDP, BCPS;
Assistant Professor, HSC College of Pharmacy

The Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act Section 5 amendment specifically identified pharmacist and pharmacist interns as qualified persons to administer recommended vaccines to ages three years and older. There was no SARS-CoV-2 stipulation limiting this federal expansion in the scope of practice to this specific virus.¹ In fact, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy appears to have embraced this broadening of the scope of practice and have thrust pharmacists squarely in the front lines in the fight against disease from SARS-CoV-2, also known as COVID-19.² While COVID-19 is a current public health threat, we will not be reviewing the extensive and tumultuous COVID-19 data that will undoubtedly be outdated as soon as this is published. Instead, this continuing education update will review updates to other immunization schedules that may not have caught as much attention during the last year of COVID-19 vaccinations but are nevertheless important. As we approach respiratory virus season, we must encourage the public to stay up-to-date with their vaccinations; as practitioners, we must also stay up to date with the recommendations to best protect our communities.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the main regulatory body for vaccines, typically meets three times a year to review updates to vaccine safety and efficacy data.³ This year is a peculiar year for many reasons, including several emergency sessions held by ACIP. However, the next session to review non-COVID vaccines is not until October of 2021. ACIP has already made new recommendations on rabies vaccines, dengue vaccines, and influenza vaccines during this time. It has also reviewed the newly FDA-approved PCV-15 and PCV-20 with official recommendations expected during the October meeting...

This article is accredited for 0.25 hours of continuing education

Continue reading and claim CE credit here:

<https://incedo.rievent.com/a/VORCOG>

Calendar of Events

2021-2022 UNTHSC Holidays Important Dates

25
Nov, 2021 Thanksgiving*

26
Nov, 2021 Preceptor
Availability Due

17 to **03**
Dec, 2021 Jan, 2022 Winter Break

17
Jan, 2022 Martin Luther King Jr.
Day*

TBA
May, 2022 Commencement

30
May, 2022 Memorial Day*

*=APPE students are granted 8 hours
leave from rotation for holiday

2021-2022 Remaining Rotation Block Dates

27 — **05**
Sep, 2021 Nov, 2021 Block 4

08 — **17**
Nov, 2021 Dec, 2021 Block 5

03 — **11**
Jan, 2022 Feb, 2022 Block 6

14 — **25**
Feb, 2022 Mar, 2022 Block 7

28 — **06**
Mar, 2022 May, 2022 Block 8

2022-2023 APPE and IPPE Availability

A reminder that rotation availability for the 2022-2023 APPE and IPPE year will be sent October 1st and is due on November 26th, 2021. Availability may be entered in CORE ELMS or sent via email to Ms. Genika Reed at Genika.Reed@unthsc.edu. Please reach out with any questions.

Student Perspective Article

Incorporating Geriatric Care into Rotations

You might be wondering why geriatrics? According to the CDC, in 2016 the number of adults 65 years and older was 49 million and accounted for 15% of the total population, however, the increase in the number of older adults is projected to reach 71 million of by year 2030 and 98 million by 2060. This would account for 25% of the entire United States population.¹ Care for older adults is critical in the healthcare system as they are at an increased risk of chronic disease states such as dementia, diabetes, and heart disease which require lifelong pharmacotherapy.¹ Pharmacists play a critical role in geriatric care due to the high requirement of prescription medications and the increased prevalence of polypharmacy within this population. This increase in the consumption of prescription medications puts these patients at a higher risk for medication errors, drug interactions, and adverse effects. Pharmacists help to reduce these risks of polypharmacy and to increase medication awareness by optimization of their pharmacotherapy.

Regardless of which pharmacy practice setting you work in unless it is primarily a pediatric setting, you will likely encounter geriatric patients. Therefore, it is imperative that pharmacy preceptors and their students work on strategies to enhance care for these patients. A few of these strategies are practicing effective communication, enhancing knowledge, and interpreting and performing clinical assessment of geriatric patients.

Effective Communication

Effective communication is important in establishing rapport with all patients, but there are a few important aspects to consider unique to geriatrics. For example, allow extra time for older adults to respond during interviews. Also, be cognizant of generational differences that can serve as barriers like language or jargon, technology, and using the proper form of formal address. It may be helpful to simplify and write down the instructions for older adults to ensure better understanding of the information that's delivered.

Enhancing Knowledge

Enhancing a student's knowledge on geriatrics during rotations is critical to ensure that they will be effective pharmacists to serve this patient subset. This can be accomplished by the utilization of the BEER's criteria² and STOPP/START³ while reviewing the patient's medications to allow for deprescribing of inappropriate, unsafe, or unnecessary medications.

Clinical Assessment

Lastly, learning how the clinical presentation of common disease states differ among geriatric patients compared to the rest of the population is critical for students. For example, urinary tract infections present with an atypical presentation in older adults like abdominal pain, incontinence, nausea or vomiting, and azotemia. Students need to be able to interpret and perform clinical assessment on geriatric patients and how it differs in comparison to the younger populations in order to provide them with adequate care.

Weaving geriatric components within a rotation is critical to the development of a future pharmacist since older adults account for a significant portion of the population requiring pharmaceutical care. The rising number of older adults demonstrates the increased demand for pharmacist involvement within geriatric care. Therefore, in order to prepare students for future success within the field of pharmacy they need to well verse with providing exemplary geriatric care in any setting.

-Rachel Blythe, PharmD Candidate Class of 2022

References:

- Promoting Health for Older Adults. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/publications/factsheets/promoting-health-for-older-adults.htm>.
- 2019 American Geriatrics Society Beers Criteria® Update Expert Panel. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2019;67(4):674-694. doi:10.1111/jgs.15767
- O'Mahony, Expert Rev Clin Pharmacol. 2020;13(1):15-22. doi:10.1080/17512433.2020.1697676

Continuing Education (CE) Programs

We are excited to share the following CE programs, free for our preceptors online through: **INCEDO** under learning opportunities

- [UNTHSC Preceptor Orientation](#) (0.5 CEU, Expires 5/20/2024)
- [The Great \(Diverse\) State of Texas: Precepting Non-Native English-Speaking Students](#) (1.0 CEU, Expires 6/11/2024)
- [Prescribing and Monitoring of Controlled Substances Refresher](#) (1.0 CEU, Expires 6/18/2024)
- [Texas Pharmacy Law Update 2021](#) (1.0 CEU, Expires 6/18/2022) available online
- [Relief at Last: Multimodal Approach to Pain Management](#) (1.0 CEU, Expires 6/11/2024)