



CANADIAN PHARMACY PRACTICE PROGRAM

Practice Skills Lab

Course Description

This course will focus on providing the skills and knowledge that pharmacists need in community practice to provide drug information to patients and health care professionals, counsel on prescription and home health care products, dispense prescriptions accurately and provide pharmaceutical care.

Course Objectives

Students in this course will be expected to:

1. Accurately interpret prescription orders.
2. Accurately perform all necessary calculations before dispensing medications.
3. Dispense prescriptions according to the requirements laid out in all relevant legislation.
4. Research and provide a response to drug information questions.
5. Professionally respond to verbal prescriptions from physicians, prescription transfer requests from other pharmacies and prescription repeat requests from patients.
6. Develop their knowledge base about frequently prescribed medications, various dosage forms, devices and complete and accurate directions for use of the same.
7. Check and sign off on prescriptions filled by auxiliary staff.
8. Assess and accurately advise on requests for the selection of home health care products.

Educational Outcomes

This course will primarily focus on a number of outcomes:

1. Apply and integrate knowledge
2. Manage drug distribution
3. Mathematical skills
4. Information access and evaluation skills
5. Provision of drug information
6. Meet a patient's drug-related needs

Course Topics

Sessions will alternate between laboratory and tutorial activities.



Laboratory activities will include:

1. Filling prescriptions, including the interpretation of written prescriptions, the correct choice of product, correct pricing, and concise counselling information
2. Completing all necessary calculations before filling the prescriptions
3. Responding to telephone calls: verbal prescription orders, drug information, prescription transfers, prescription repeats
4. Checking and verifying prescriptions filled by auxiliary personnel

Tutorial activities will include:

1. Accurately reading prescriptions, including Latin abbreviations and Roman numerals, as well as the choice of appropriate auxiliary labels and counselling issues
2. Dosage forms: assessing, choosing and explaining the use of various dosage forms and ancillary devices
3. Drug information: choosing and evaluating information sources
4. Patient Self Care: interviewing and assessing a patient, choosing appropriate products and counselling on those products for common home health care conditions such as Cough and Cold, Constipation, Diarrhea, Fever and Eye/Ear Infections.

Learning Strategies

Learning strategies will be practical in nature and will reflect common activities that take place in community pharmacies. They will be a combination of laboratory and tutorial sessions. Pharmacist Instructors who are all practicing pharmacists will provide support and guidance during the laboratory sessions.

Assessment Strategies

Assessment strategies are learning-centred and include continuous assessment throughout the course to track personal growth and learning. Marked dispensing assignments, calculations exercises, situational telephone exercises and drug information requests will be used as evaluation tools to determine students' progress and to determine any supportive sessions that need be given on any of the areas of difficulty. An overall passing grade of 60% is necessary to pass the classroom portion of the program.

Since the assessed activities are encountered for the first time by registrants in the program, the initial assessments are for learning purposes only. The assessments that are required for successful completion of the classroom portion of the program begin on week 8.



Student assessment will consist of:

Prescription processing & counselling	Weeks 9 through 11, equally weighted	30%
Calculations	Weeks 9 through 11, equally weighted	10%
Verbal prescriptions	Weeks 9 through 11, equally weighted	10%
Drug information	Weeks 9 through 11, equally weighted	20%
Problem prescriptions	Weeks 9 through 11, equally weighted	20%
Checking prescriptions	Weeks 9 through 11, equally weighted	10%

Appeal: if there are simple errors of addition or calculation, please report these to Jas Jawanda for correction.

Required Texts

1. Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties (CPS): Canadian Pharmacists Association (most recent)
2. Compendium of Therapeutic Choices: Canadian Pharmacists Association - (most recent)
3. Compendium of Therapeutics for Minor Ailments: Canadian Pharmacists Association – (most recent)