

PHARMACIST/CLINICAL

DESCRIPTION: Under limited supervision, performs professional clinical pharmacy work of a highly skilled and specialized nature in a state hospital/institution. The work involves compounding medications and dispensing prescriptions as prescribed by a Physician, Physician Assistant, or Dentist, determining appropriateness of prescriptions according to state and federal laws, hospital guidelines, and accreditation standards, and ensuring proper dosages. Incumbents perform clinical pharmacy functions such as patient education and counseling, participation in treatment planning and review, and consultation with medical staff regarding drug therapy. Incumbents are supervised by the facility Medical Director; performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (A position may not be assigned all the duties listed, nor do the listed examples include all the duties that may be assigned.)

Monitors drug therapy by direct involvement with the patient and evaluation of the patient's drug regimen, medical or psychiatric needs, laboratory data, and patient progress reports; communicates relevant findings and recommendations to other professional staff responsible for the patient's care and treatment.

Participates as a member of a treatment team in planning, evaluating, and implementing individualized treatment programs.

Fills and dispenses medication orders according to the prescription; assesses prescription appropriateness and legibility; evaluates dosages and determines potential of drug-drug, drug-disease, and drug-diet interactions and effects of patient related variables in treatment.

Confers with physicians, nurses, and other health care personnel on drug indications, contra-indications, incompatibility of certain drugs, side effects, adverse reactions, and alternate medications.

Consults with physicians in areas such as drug therapy selection, pharmacokinetics, nutritional support and determination of therapeutic endpoints.

Counsels and educates patients individually and in groups on drug therapy; explains need for medication, effects on disease, potential side effects and adverse reactions; evaluates the patients' potential for self-medication.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS REQUIRED: (These may be acquired on the job and are needed to perform the work assigned.)

Knowledge of: the principles and practices of clinical hospital pharmacy; medical, pharmacology, and toxicology; hospital policies and accreditation regulations pertaining to the dispensing of drugs, drug utilization, and quality control.

Ability to: evaluate drug regimens and patient's response to drug therapy; evaluate patient progress records pertaining to drug therapy; participate as a member of a treatment team consisting of professionals from various disciplines.

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Skill in: the use of library references and conducting literature searches to obtain drug information; counseling patients.

ENTRY KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS REQUIRED: (Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance, and/or other evaluations.)

Knowledge of: the principles, terminology, and practices of clinical pharmacy; state and federal laws pertaining to the practices of clinical pharmacy; the classification of drugs according to their action, use, and dosage; drug therapy; the drug-drug, drug-disease, and drug-diet interactions.

Ability to: prepare, compound, and dispense medications with accuracy; counsel and educate patients about their disease and potential drug reactions.

Skill in: compounding prescriptions accurately; communicating with physicians, nurses, and other health care staff.

JOB PREPARATION GUIDELINES: (Entry knowledge, abilities, and/or skills may be acquired through, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, the following coursework/training and/or experience.)

A general qualification guideline for positions in this class is a Doctor of Pharmacology degree from an accredited school of pharmacy, including psychiatric pharmacy residency and/or fellowship. Computer experience is desirable.