

POSTER 33

Importance of Consultant Pharmacy Services: Comparison Between Pharmacy Student and Nursing Facility Member Rankings

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OBJECTIVES: To compare third-year pharmacy students' ranking of consultant pharmacist services taking an elective in consultant pharmacy to nursing facility members' ranking of consultant pharmacist services.

METHODS: Exploratory cross-sectional study used an instrument previously developed by Clark (The Consultant Pharmacist; 2008) to rank the importance on a 5-point scale of 21 services provided by consultant pharmacists. The instrument had been administered to nursing facility members (directors of nursing, medical directors, and administrators). Mean scores for all nursing facility members were used to cluster 12 services of high importance (above the mean and called foundational services) and 9 consultant pharmacy services of low importance (below the mean and called extra services). Pharmacy student rankings were compared with the combined nursing facility member rankings.

RESULTS: When comparing pharmacy student rankings of consultant pharmacy services to nursing facility member rankings, both sets of ranking were more similar for the 12 foundational services (71% of the same rankings were above the mean), as opposed to the 9 extra services (54% of the same rankings were below the mean).

IMPLICATIONS: Both pharmacy students and nursing facility members were similar when they ranked 12 of the 21 services provided by consultant pharmacists as important. However, there was variation between the pharmacy student rankings and the nursing facility member rankings for extra services. Results can serve as a benchmark comparison with rankings conducted by consultant pharmacists in their own facilities. Student pharmacists can use the assessment after graduation if practicing in consultant pharmacy as an evaluation of individual performance.

Authors acknowledge that there was no funding accepted for this study.

POSTER 34

Falls Risk Prevention Through Inter-Professional Collaboration

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OBJECTIVE: To elucidate the importance of inter-professional collaboration in reducing falls risk in the community through Medication Therapy Management (MTM) and Berg Balance Testing.

METHODS: Pharmacy students from the ASCP student chapter paired together with physical therapy (PT) students to assess ten patients and their falls risk. This was conducted through both a MTM process and balance testing. The first session was an opportunity for the students to educate each other on what their profession would contribute to falls risk prevention. The second encounter was a trial run with volunteers mainly consisting of family members of the students at the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy. This allowed students to practice their professional skills on familiar faces before moving on to real patients. The third meeting was conducted at Baptist Manor Senior Center with ten active participants. PT students conducted the Berg Balance Test and assessed patients' strength and balance, while pharmacy students completed a MTM session to determine a falls risk score. Collaboratively, students then made recommendations based on patients' risk score and environmental factors.

RESULTS: Ten pharmacy students and five PT students participated in the event. After completion, each individual assessed received a report from a pharmacy student which included a personal medication record, medication action plan, and report card. This gave the individual a value associated with their falls risk in respect to the medications that they were prescribed. From the PT student, individuals received a score determining their static and dynamic balance ranging from unable to independent.

CONCLUSION: Participants were educated on their falls risk potential and interventions that can be implemented to address these risks. Through inter-professional collaboration between pharmacy and PT students, participants gained vital knowledge tailored to their individual needs. Students gained insight as to how collaboration can enhance patient care and outcomes.

Authors acknowledge that there was no funding accepted for this study.