



Department of Pharmacy

**Westchester
Medical Center**

Westchester Medical Center Health Network

ADVANCED PHARMACY PRACTICE LONGITUDINAL EXPERIENCE AT WESTCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

ABOUT WESTCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

Westchester Medical Center (WMC) is part of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth) located in Valhalla, New York. Westchester Medical Center is the only regional resource for tertiary and quaternary care in the Hudson Valley Region and delivers advanced medical care in specialties and services ranging from heart, kidney and liver transplants to advanced endovascular procedures. Spanning every adult and pediatric medical specialty Westchester Medical Center (WMC), the 895-bed regional medical system serving New York's Hudson Valley region and beyond, encompassing a regional academic medical center, children's hospital, community hospital, two inpatient behavioral health centers, homecare and numerous outpatient health and related services serves as a lifeline to the more than 3.5 million people in the Hudson Valley region and beyond. With a total workforce of 7,000 healthcare professionals including 1200 physicians, Westchester Medical Center is one of the region's largest sources of employment and economic impact. From prevention to education and treatment, the physicians, health care staff and volunteers at Westchester Medical Center have a reputation as the region's most advanced and innovative health care delivery system. The Medical Center is home to the region's most comprehensive cardiovascular program, is a regional Level I Trauma and Burn Center with more than 40,000 emergency room visits per year. WMC is also the academic medical center of New York Medical College with academic faculty educating and mentoring residents in the latest healthcare techniques and best practices preparing future generations of care givers.

OUR PHARMACY DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Department of Pharmacy is to provide optimal, high-quality, and cost-effective pharmaceutical care to our patients in an environment of educational growth, respect, and open communication. The Department of Pharmacy at WMC consists of a main inpatient pharmacy which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and multiple pharmacy satellites to include pediatrics, oncology, and outpatient chemotherapy & transfusion center. The hospital and the Department of Pharmacy utilize computerized physician order entry (CPOE) system to maintain medication profiles for all patients. Unit dose medications are dispensed utilizing automated dispensing cabinets (Pyxis). The Pharmacy prepares and dispenses all medications that are required to be prepared in an aseptic environment and utilizes i.v. STATION robotic technology to compound ready-to-administer non-hazardous admixtures. The Pharmacy coordinates the review of all adverse drug events or medication occurrences by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P & T). The Pharmacy is responsible for all aspects of investigational drug use which include maintenance of all research protocols, provision of information, safe storage, record-keeping, dispensing of the drugs, patient education and monitoring of therapy, and return or disposal of unused investigational drugs. The Pharmacy Department utilizes the expertise and skills of Clinical Pharmacy Specialists in the areas of Solid Organ Transplant, Pediatrics/Neonatology, Infectious Diseases, Intensive Care Areas, Pain Management, Hematology/Oncology, Internal Medicine, and Emergency Medicine.



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WMC APPE LONGITUDINAL EXPERIENCE

The APPE longitudinal experience at WMC will give pharmacy students opportunity to apply their didactic knowledge in a challenging and diverse inpatient setting. The pharmacy student will be responsible for providing clinical pharmacy services under the preceptorship of a clinical pharmacy specialist. The student will participate in daily patient care rounds and provide drug information to the multi-disciplinary team as well as patients and families. Students will participate in topic discussion with the preceptors and present formal presentation and/or journal club. Students will have an opportunity to prepare drug monograph, drug-class review, medication use evaluation (MUE) or be involved in research. Pharmacy students are expected to demonstrate high level of professionalism and integrity and demonstrate sensitivity to multicultural patient belief system in all plans and communications.

The learning experience will consist of two or three consecutive rotations and each rotation will be four weeks in length. During this time the student will complete one Institutional Rotation which is required and one or two elective inpatient rotations based on the student's interests and preceptor availability.

AVAILABLE ROTATIONS

- Institutional (required)
- Internal (General)Medicine
- Infectious Diseases
- Solid Organ Transplant
- Critical Care (Neuroscience, Trauma)
- Emergency Medicine
- Adult Hematology/Oncology
- Medication Safety
- Neonatal ICU (Gen Peds required)
- Pediatric ICU (Gen Peds required)
- Pharmacy Informatics
- Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION

Interested students should submit the following to the UCONN Office of Experiential Education.

- Curriculum vitae (CV)
- Letter of interest – please include preference of rotations and dates as indicated in the tables below
- Official College Transcript
- Two letters of reference from current/previous employers, preceptors, or faculty – may be completed after acceptance
- NYS Pharmacy Limited (Intern) License is required prior to stating APPE rotations



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ROTATION PREFERENCES (Please rank rotations 1 – 5 in order of preference – Institutional is required)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>1</u> Institutional (required) | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Hematology/Oncology/BMT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internal (General) Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Pediatric Hematology/Oncology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infectious Diseases | <input type="checkbox"/> Medication Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Organ Transplant | <input type="checkbox"/> Neonatal ICU (prior inpatient rotation required)* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Critical Care (Neuroscience,Trauma) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pediatric ICU (prior inpatient rotation required)* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Informatics |

* Successful completion of prior inpatient rotation (adult or pediatrics)

MODULE PREFERENCES (Please rank period 1 – 3 in order of preference)

3-module experience

- Period 1 (Module 1,2,3) May 19 - September 19, 2025
 Period 2 (Module 4,5,6) Sept. 22 - February 13, 2026
 Period 3 (Module 6,7,8) January 5 - May 8, 2026

2-module experience

- Period 1 (Module 1,2) May 19 - August 8, 2025
 Period 2 (Module 3,4) August 11 – October 31, 2025
 Period 3 (Module 4, 5) September 22 – December 12, 2025
 Period 4 (Module 6,7) January 6 – March 27, 2026

PROGRAM CONTACT

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ROTATION DESCRIPTIONS

INSTITUTIONAL (REQUIRED)

The goal of this APPE rotation is to expose and engage the student in the role(s) and responsibilities of the pharmacist and the department of pharmacy in a hospital setting. Through their observation/participation, students will begin to observe, gain and develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to function as a future pharmacist in an institutional setting. Students will be provided diverse experiences in multiple areas of pharmacy practice such as medication order processing, dispensing, distribution and delivery, formulary management, inventory management, sterile/non-sterile product compounding (USP 797 and 800), therapeutic drug monitoring, drug information, investigational pharmacy, pharmacy automation, medication safety, communication with health professionals, and clinical pharmacy services.

INTERNAL (GENERAL) MEDICINE

This rotation consists of providing clinical pharmacy services to general internal medicine population at Westchester Medical Center. The practice environment will require daily interactions with patients, medical attendings, house staff, mid-level practitioners, nursing staff, pharmacy staff, and other healthcare professionals necessary to optimize pharmacotherapy. In addition to monitoring and consulting on pharmacotherapeutic issues, the student will provide medication education/discharge counseling to patients as necessary and may also provide educational presentations to nursing, pharmacy and physician staff members as needed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

This elective rotation provides opportunities for students to develop a greater understanding of the pathophysiology and pharmacology of infectious diseases. Experience will be gained in the collection, interpretation, and application of patient specific data, which are used to assist with the design and implementation of therapeutic antimicrobial regimens.

CRITICAL CARE

This rotation is designed to provide pharmacy students with the broad knowledge base and the necessary practical experience that they need in order to successfully evaluate and apply pharmacotherapeutic principles during common acute and chronic medical problems (conditions) that require admission to a critical care unit. The application of therapeutic principles, clinical pharmacokinetics, documentation, communication skills, patient interactions, and the provision of drug information are emphasized through daily interactions with the medical team. Students will have an opportunity to round either in the Neuroscience or Trauma Care Unit.



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HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY/BMT

The goal of this APPE is to expose the student to patient care in an inpatient oncology (adult or pediatric) setting. Through their participation, students will gain the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to care for patients with various malignancies and non-malignant hematological conditions. Specifically, students will develop their knowledge of the pathology and therapeutics of various malignancies as well as cancer chemotherapy pharmacology, and the management of its associated toxicities. Students will develop their skills of literature evaluation to apply patient-specific evidence-based treatment plans. Students will continue their professional development through the use of didactic lectures, round table discussions, and self-learning.

NEONATAL ICU

The goal of this APPE is to expose the student to patient care in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Through their participation, students will gain the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for clinical pharmacy practice in the area of neonatology. These skills include, demonstration of knowledge of disease states common in neonatal patients, evaluation of drug therapies used in neonatal patients, development of therapeutic plans designed in the best interest of the neonate and his/her family, application of general knowledge of pharmacokinetic principles in neonates and their influence on neonatal dosing of medications, adjustment of therapy based on clinical response, adverse drug reactions, and/or laboratory results, and communication with other health care professionals to assure the best positive outcome regarding a patient's medication therapy. **It requires a successful completion of an inpatient rotation (adult or pediatrics) prior to placement.**

PEDIATRIC ICU

The goal of the clinical rotation in pediatrics is for the student to develop skills that are necessary for practice in the areas of pediatrics. These skills include, demonstration of knowledge of disease states common in the PICU patients, evaluation of drug therapies used in pediatric patients, development of therapeutic plans designed in the best interest of the child and his/her family, application of general knowledge of pharmacokinetic principles in children and their influence on pediatric dosing of medications, adjustment of therapy based on clinical response, adverse drug reactions, and/or laboratory results, and communication with other health care professionals to assure the best positive outcome regarding a patient's medication therapy. **It requires a successful completion of an inpatient rotation (adult or pediatrics) prior to placement.**

EMERGENCY MEDICINE

The Emergency Medicine APPE rotation is designed to enhance the knowledge and application of the student in the discipline of emergency medicine pharmacotherapy. Communication skills, therapeutic drug monitoring, and the provision of drug information will be emphasized through daily interactions with the



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healthcare professionals responsible for the care of patients. The pharmacist in the ER is responsible for ensuring safe and effective medication use for all patients in the department. Routine responsibilities include: responding to codes and traumas, prioritizing delivery of care to patients in the ED, recommending regimens and monitoring plans for patients, answering drug information questions from providers, gathering medication histories, and managing necessary aspects of the medication-use system.

SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANT

This rotation consists of providing clinical pharmacy services to adult (and occasionally pediatric) end stage liver, kidney and heart disease recipient candidates, and solid organ transplant patients. The practice environment will require daily interactions with patients, medical attendings, house staff, mid-level practitioners, nursing staff, pharmacy staff, transplant coordinators and other healthcare professionals necessary to optimize pharmacotherapy. In addition to monitoring and consulting on pharmacotherapeutic issues, the student will provide medication education/discharge counseling to patients and may also provide educational presentations to nursing, pharmacy and physician staff members as needed.

MEDICATION SAFETY

This rotation will consist of providing medication safety services under the preceptorship of the Pharmacy Medication Safety Officer, VP of Network Pharmacy and the Director of Pharmacy. The practice environment will require daily interactions with medical attending's, house staff, mid-level practitioners, nursing staff, pharmacy staff and other healthcare professionals necessary to optimize safe medication use within all aspects of patient care. In addition to monitoring and consulting on safety issues, the student may also provide educational presentations to nursing, pharmacy and physician staff members as needed. Some of the student responsibilities will include investigating reported medication variances and determine whether follow-up is necessary, assisting in the surveillance and reporting of suspected drug reactions (SDR's), formulating recommendations and initiatives in process changes to improve medication safety, reviewing documentation and reporting of suspected drug reactions (SDR's) via trends and other related modes, and involvement in the development of innovative medication safety projects which may include but is not limited to the Alaris® drug library and CPOE.

PHARMACY ADMINISTRATION

The Departmental Administration experience incorporates an understanding of overall Pharmacy operations at WMC. The department's philosophy of pharmacy practice is nurtured and maintained through the functions of departmental administration. The student will gain exposure to areas of departmental administration through experiences with various members of the Pharmacy's management team. The VP of Network Pharmacy, the Director of Pharmacy, and Associate Director in conjunction with other Pharmacy management will provide the structure for these activities within the department. They include, motivating departmental managers and staff in meeting departmental goals and expectations of providing pharmaceutical care and high pharmacy standards, assuring that all drug procurement, storage, use, dispensation, and delivery meets the standards for quality established by the department and the hospital, promoting and maintaining a symbiotic relationship between the pharmacy, medical departments, and



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nursing in all areas of the institution, and assisting the medical center in containing drug therapy expenditures while providing high quality, cost-effective drug therapy to patients.

PHARMACY INFORMATICS

The pharmacy informatics rotation will provide the student an appreciation of the importance of pharmacy informatics as an essential component of the development and maintenance of an electronic health record (EHR); by identifying, investigating, and improving operational efficiencies in order to better serve the patient's and health professional's needs through the application of informatics and technology.