

# APPE Assignments

You will choose one of the following additional assignments for your final case presentation or quality improvement project worth about 10% of your final grade for this rotation. This will be in addition to your respective University-required assignments/reflections.

## 1. Comprehensive Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Session

- Conduct an MTM session with a patient under pharmacist supervision.
- Review the patient's medication list for adherence, drug interactions, and cost-saving opportunities.
- Provide patient education on identified therapy gap or training on how to use various medications/devices.
  - Inhaler education, glucometer training, etc.

**Deliverable:** A detailed MTM report summarizing findings, recommendations, and patient counseling points.

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## 2. Chronic Disease State Management

- Identify patients with chronic conditions (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, asthma) and evaluate their medication therapy.
- Provide education on disease state management, lifestyle modifications, and medication adherence.
- Collaborate with the pharmacist to optimize medication regimens.

**Deliverable:** A case study on a patient with a chronic condition, including therapy recommendations.

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## 3. Immunization Services and Public Health Outreach

- Assist in screening patients for vaccine eligibility based on CDC guidelines.
- Observe and document the immunization process, including patient education and consent.
- Participate in outreach efforts to increase vaccination rates.

**Deliverable:** A report summarizing patient interactions, common patient concerns, and strategies for improving vaccine uptake.

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#### 4. Addressing Medication Non-Adherence

- Use the pharmacy system to identify patients with delayed refills or gaps in therapy.
- Conduct patient outreach (calls or in-person) to discuss barriers to adherence.
- Recommend solutions, such as medication synchronization or automatic refills.

**Deliverable:** A summary of two patient cases, the identified adherence barriers, and proposed interventions.

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#### 5. Controlled Substances Management and Diversion Prevention

- Review how controlled substances are stored, dispensed, and monitored.
- Discuss strategies to prevent drug diversion and recognize red flags for potential misuse.
- Learn about state Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) and how they are utilized.

**Deliverable:** A short essay on best practices for controlled substance management and case examples of diversion prevention.

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#### 6. Insurance and Prior Authorization Challenges

- Assist patients with insurance claim rejections and prior authorization requests.
- Learn about common formulary restrictions and alternative medication options.
- Discuss a case with a pharmacist where a medication switch was necessary due to insurance issues.

**Deliverable:** A case study of an insurance-related challenge and how it was resolved.

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#### 7. OTC and Self-Care Consultations

- Provide recommendations for OTC medications based on patient symptoms and medical history.
- Compare different OTC products for efficacy, safety, and cost-effectiveness.
- Discuss common OTC counseling scenarios with the pharmacist.

**Deliverable:** A chart comparing three OTC products with indications, contraindications, and patient education points.

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## 8. Pharmacy Operations and Workflow Optimization

- Analyze daily pharmacy workflow, identifying bottlenecks or inefficiencies.
- Observe how pharmacists and technicians collaborate to improve patient care.
- Suggest one operational improvement and discuss its feasibility with the preceptor.
- Examples:
  - Prescription filling or dispensing process improvement
  - Patient information collection process improvement
  - Optimize clinical pharmacy services (e.g., new process to alert RPh of new practice changes)

**Deliverable:** A proposal for workflow optimization, including potential benefits and challenges.

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## 9. Emergency Preparedness and Handling Special Situations

- Learn how CVS handles emergency prescriptions (e.g., lost/stolen medications, emergency refills).
- Discuss procedures for handling recalls, expired medications, and natural disaster situations.
- Observe the process for handling fraudulent or suspicious prescriptions.

**Deliverable:** A report on CVS Pharmacy's emergency preparedness protocols and how they support patient care.

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## 10. Interprofessional Collaboration and Communication

- Observe interactions between pharmacists, prescribers, nurses, and other healthcare providers.
- Participate in resolving a clinical issue that required collaboration with another provider (e.g., dose adjustments, therapy substitutions).
- Reflect on the importance of effective communication in patient care.

**Deliverable:** A reflection paper on an observed interprofessional collaboration case, detailing the role of the pharmacist in patient care.

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## 11. Pharmacy Quality Improvement

- Conduct a pharmacy self-inspection for regulatory competencies (good way to see and understand pharmacy operations)

- Review and update pharmacy standard operating policies and/or procedures

**Deliverable:** A proposal for workflow optimization, including potential benefits and challenges.

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## 12. Medication Safety

- Review pharmacy near misses and errors and current safe practice recommendations (e.g., vaccine errors and ISMP vaccine safe practice recommendations).
- Review prescriptions with errors (HIPAA-compliant)
- Find and identify all NIOSH drug(s) at the pharmacy then classify based on their listing in USP 800 – Group 1, Group 2, or Group 3.

**Deliverable:** TBD based on assignment chosen.

## APPE Rotation Assignment Rubric

Criteria	Excellent (10 pts)	Proficient (8 pts)	Satisfactory (6 pts)	Needs Improvement (4 pts)	Unacceptable (2 pts)
<b>Understanding of Concepts</b>	Demonstrates in-depth knowledge and accurately applies concepts.	Shows good understanding with minor gaps.	Demonstrates basic understanding but lacks depth.	Limited understanding with several errors.	Does not demonstrate understanding or applies concepts incorrectly.
<b>Application to Patient Care/Pharmacy Practice</b>	Effectively applies knowledge to real-world pharmacy practice with strong clinical reasoning.	Applies knowledge well but misses some key considerations.	Some application, but lacks depth or clinical significance.	Minimal application with unclear reasoning.	Does not apply knowledge appropriately.
<b>Communication &amp; Professionalism</b>	Clear, concise, and professional communication with excellent patient/pharmacist interactions.	Generally professional with minor lapses in clarity.	Communication is adequate but could be more professional.	Some issues with professionalism or clarity.	Poor communication, unprofessional behavior.
<b>Critical Thinking &amp; Problem-Solving</b>	Demonstrates strong critical thinking with well-reasoned solutions.	Shows good problem-solving but with minor gaps.	Some critical thinking, but reasoning is underdeveloped.	Struggles to analyze issues effectively.	Lacks problem-solving ability or critical thinking.
<b>Completeness &amp; Organization of Deliverable</b>	Thorough, well-structured, and free of errors.	Mostly complete with good structure and minor errors.	Adequate but lacks organization or has multiple errors.	Missing key components or poorly structured.	Incomplete or poorly executed work.

### Grading Scale:

- **90-100 (A)** – Exceptional work, exceeds expectations.
- **80-89 (B)** – Strong performance with minor weaknesses.
- **70-79 (C)** – Meets basic expectations but needs improvement.
- **60-69 (D)** – Below expectations, needs significant revision.
- **<60 (F)** – Fails to meet minimum requirements.