

The Changing Profile of Pharmacy Students

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The Changing Profile of Pharmacy Students: Session Overview

- How has the evolving role of the pharmacist and the pharmacy profession impacted students?
- What skills will pharmacy graduates need to address tomorrow's health challenges?
- What are this generation of students like; their preferences, behaviours and attitudes?
- How can we best engage students and prepare them for evolving pharmacy practice?

CONTINUED EVOLUTION OF PRACTICE



Evolution of Pharmacy Practice

- compounding; preparing drugs
- Dispensing function
- Patient Counselling / Education;
- Clinical Pharmacy in hospital setting
- 1990s: Pharmaceutical Care:
 - ➔ direct patient care practice
 - ➔ medication management services

Evolution of Practice & Education

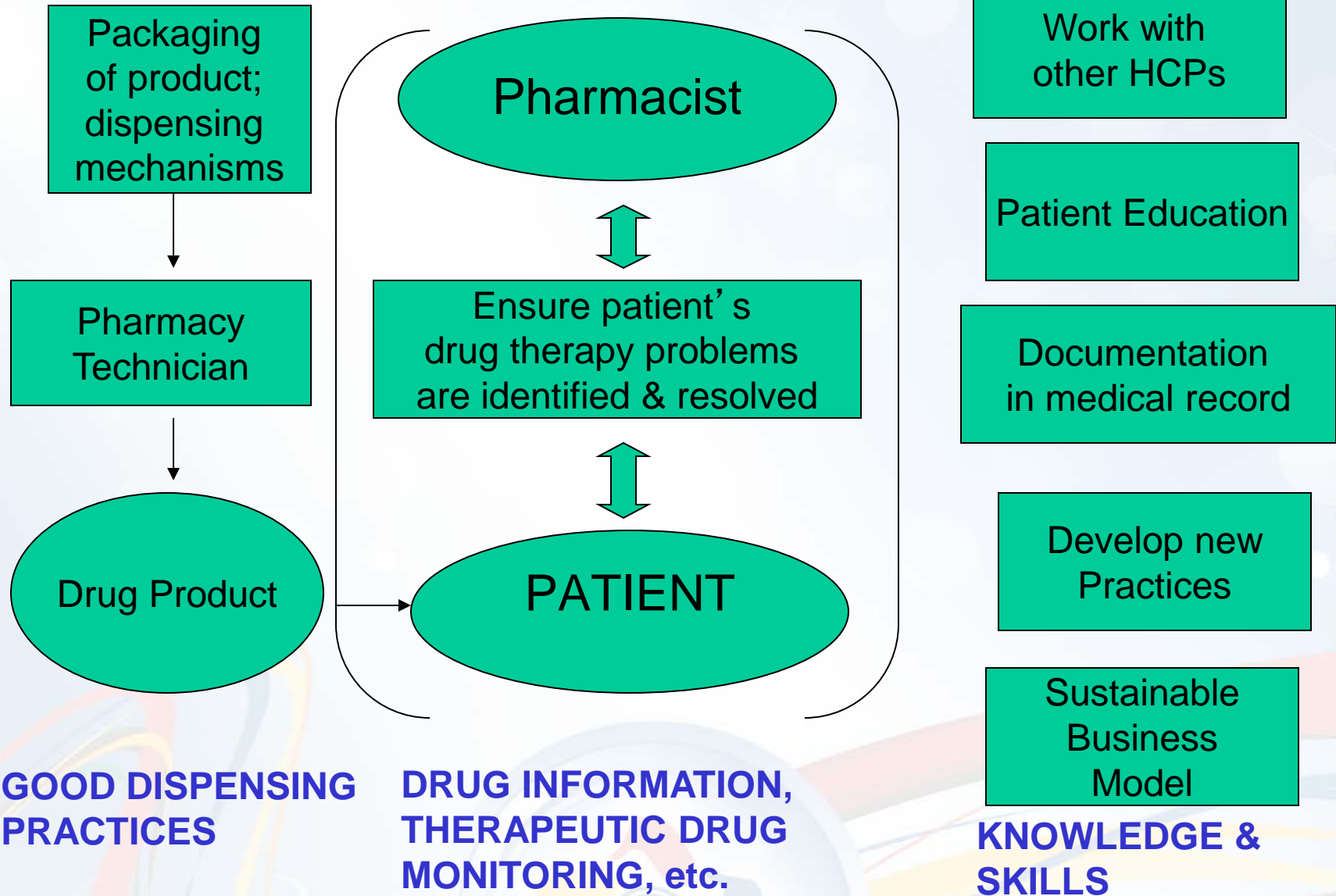
PRACTICE

- compounding; preparing drugs
- Dispensing: product focus
- Patient education; Clinical Pharmacy
- Pharmaceutical Care – direct patient care practice; Medication Management

EDUCATION

- Pharmacy as a trade; 1-4 yrs apprenticeship with 1 yr university
- 4 yr BSc pharmacy degree
- Now between 4 and 8 years in university
- BSc or MSc or PharmD degrees

Patient Care Practice



Practice will continue to evolve...

- Expanded scope of pharmacist's practice:
 - ➔ Injections administration
 - ➔ Medication assessments
 - ➔ Prescribing



Readiness for tomorrow's health care challenges!



The Lancet Commission

Health Professionals for a new century: transforming education to strengthen health systems in an interdependent world

www.thelancet.com Vol376 Dec 4, 2010

The Lancet Commission: Vision

“All health professionals in all countries should be educated **to mobilise knowledge and to engage in critical reasoning and ethical conduct** so that they are **competent to participate in patient and population-centred health systems** as members of **locally responsive** and globally connected teams.”

The Lancet; Vol 376, No.9756: 1923-58, Dec 2010

Preparing Graduates for Tomorrow's Health Care!

Life-long learners

Global citizens

Critical thinkers

Address evolving health care issues

Change agents

Leadership qualities

- Informative learning (knowledge & skills – expert)
- Formative learning (socializing students as professionals)
- **Transformative Learning (developing leadership attributes to be change agents)**

, *The Lancet*; Vol 376, No.9756: 1923-58, Dec 2010

***This generation of learners...
Millennials, Generation We,
Generation Y...***



Today's students...

- Millennials - born between 1980 to 2000
 - ➔ Grew in a time of rapid change; different set of priorities and expectations – different from their teachers
- First digital natives – used to instant access of information
- Social and connected – smart phones
- Egalitarian – authority or position not seen as relevant

Today's students...

- Meaning and purpose: like to know why they are learning something
- More focus on work/life balance – different than the 'hard work ethic' of previous generations
- Sharing economy – have the services you want without owning it – the renter generation

Today's students...

- Much more socially conscientious – many extracurricular activities
 - ➔ Leadership qualities
 - ➔ Work well with each other and initiate many volunteer students groups, e.g. Pharmacy Awareness of Geriatrics
- Like flexibility, like to make choices
- Variety of formats for learning
- Like lots of feedback – more formative assessments

Changing Profile of Pharmacy Students

- To embrace the evolving pharmacy profession and to have the required competencies to address it
- Be prepared to address tomorrow's health care challenges - Importance of non-academic attributes of the students – not just focus on marks
- Consider how they approach their work and what we need to do to ensure that their learning is effective



Profile of Pharmacy Students

- What qualities should students have upon admission?
 - ➔ Consider attributes such as a commitment to care, critical thinking, ethical reasoning, communication skills, team skills
- Need to become more self-directed; be able to self-assess; problem-solvers – curriculum needs to be responsive to these
- Increase in degree requirements: 4 to 6 years; many with 2 + 4 year program – more mature students – different expectations

Profile of Pharmacy Students

- Interprofessional Education
- Team-based activities and learning
- Integration of science with practice; making learning relevant
- Practicum based – they like simulated or experimental learning
- Like choices – more elective courses
- Like to take on more leadership roles; getting them engaged early in the profession

Profile of Pharmacy Students

- Prefer a variety of active learning methods: they like to be engaged in their learning
- Preferences for collaborating, connecting with each other
- Use technology to facilitate collaborative work:
 - ➔ Use of wikis, Google docs
 - ➔ Flipped classroom with pre-class materials available online
 - ➔ Polling software – students like quick feedback
- Online learning; digital courses
- They are relational; like to get to know their teachers

In Summary...

- The evolving role of the pharmacist and the pharmacy profession impact on both what students should learn and the skills they will need
- Students will need to be life-long learners, global citizens, critical thinkers, change agents and have leadership qualities
- We need to consider their learning preferences and behaviours in how we can best prepare them for practice

THANK YOU!

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