

## Dalhousie College of Pharmacy

### Practice Experience Program (PEP) PHAR 2083

#### Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience – 1 (IPPE-1) in Hospital

#### 4 consecutive weeks @ 40 hours per week

#### Preceptor Fast Facts

Thank you for considering taking on the critical role of hosting a second-year pharmacy learner at your site during these busy times. The first class of the new entry to practice Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) started in September 2020. Second year students from the Class of 2024 will be completing their second introductory rotation course: **Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience: Hospital (PHAR 2083)** between May and August 2022. Below are answers to some frequently asked questions.

#### How has the pharmacy curriculum changed for the new PharmD program?

Many of the biomedical sciences have become pre-requisites. Students now complete a number of pharmacotherapeutic topics during their first year (i.e., fever, nutrition, eye/ear, dermatology and respiratory) and in second year (i.e., cardiovascular, endocrine, contraception, menopause, infectious disease 1, pain and special considerations in pregnancy and lactation and addictions). Other courses covered include critical appraisal series; social, behavioural, and administrative pharmacy; and skills labs. Students also complete an immunology course in their second year. Second year students completed their first **Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience: Community (PHAR 1083)** (4 consecutive weeks @ 40 hours per week) at the end of their first year.

#### What type of activities will students be completing in the IPPE-1 (PHAR 2083) Hospital course?

Students will complete pharmacy and patient care activities under the supervision of a pharmacy preceptor. Activities will include orientation to medication distribution processes (operations) and participation in patient care and pharmacy services within the hospital setting including:

- orientation to processes, policies and procedures, and the role of health professionals involved in the distribution of medications and sterile preparations in the hospital setting;
- orientation to medication safety programs supported or managed by the hospital pharmacy department;
- orientation to the contributions hospital pharmacists make to patient care within the hospital setting;
- participation in the medication distribution and order review process;
- reviewing and interpreting patient information within a patient record/chart;
- completing best possible medication histories (BPMH) and participating in the medication reconciliation process as appropriate for the setting;
- providing patient care for uncomplicated patients focusing on therapeutic topics in Year 1 and 2 and including patient work ups, medication education and patient discharge education

- exposure to and participation in pharmacy run service(s) as time permits and opportunities arise;
- documentation of patient care using the patient charts/records at the rotation site;
- presenting brief informal case presentations to summarize assessment and findings;
- answering drug information questions and providing medication information/advice to patients, caregivers and healthcare providers;
- setting professional goals and examining their practice by self-assessment and reflection.

### **I am a Pharmacist with a BSc (Pharm) degree – can I precept PharmD students?**

**ABSOLUTELY YES**, you are amply qualified to precept entry to practice PharmD students. Your education and clinical experience mean that you are an expert as a pharmacist and entry to practice PharmD students are learners without your clinical experience. You are in a strong position to be a preceptor and role model to students.

### **Will my responsibility as a preceptor change with entry to practice PharmD students?**

The PharmD remains an entry-to-practice degree and as such, is intended to prepare students to enter practice. The new PEP rotations have been developed and designed through stakeholder engagement with the lens of preparing students to integrate effectively and meaningfully into clinical practice areas to avoid adding additional preceptor responsibilities.

### **Am I able to co-precept with another pharmacist preceptor at the site?**

Yes, we appreciate that pharmacists in busy pharmacy practices or during scheduled vacations, may best support the learner in a co-preceptorship model (1 student to 2 preceptors). One preceptor will need to take the lead looking after access to and completion of the electronic assessment forms. Preceptors will register for access to the One45 forms using one email and if multiple preceptors were involved would need to share the password amongst preceptors to access the electronic forms.

### **Is preceptor training and support available?**

Yes. There currently is an online Dalhousie Faculty of Health introductory preceptor modules (<http://elearning.health.dal.ca/>) that are used by pharmacy preceptors across Canada. The College of Pharmacy will be hiring an assortment of Regional Coordinators to be based across the Maritimes to support preceptor development and provide support for learning and teaching within the PharmD rotations. We encourage all preceptors to apply for an Adjunct Appointment with the College of Pharmacy that provides access to the university library system. Details on how to apply can be found [here](#). The Practice Experience Program will provide preceptors with an asynchronous orientation session prior to the start of the first block of rotations. The session will be CE accredited and accessible via an online link that will be emailed to all participating preceptors.

### **If I have additional questions, who should I contact?**

Please email the PEP Team at [pepadm@dal.ca](mailto:pepadm@dal.ca) and a member of the team will connect with you to answer your inquiry.