Learning Experience Descriptions

**Anticoagulation Management Clinic**

The Anticoagulation Management rotation is an elective learning experience that focuses on the outpatient management of anticoagulation. The HealthEast Anticoagulation Clinic is a centralized management service comprised of both registered nurses and pharmacists that share the responsibility for anticoagulation management of over 2000 HealthEast primary care patients. Utilizing a collaborative practice agreement, pharmacists in the anticoagulation clinic provide anticoagulation therapy management, bridging guidance and drug therapy selection. During this rotation, the resident will work collaboratively with the pharmacist to monitor, assess and develop anticoagulation management plans. The resident will advance his or her clinical skills through extensive patient care contact and gain practical experience developing evidence-based recommendations for medication management plans. Additionally, the resident will assist in providing education and drug information to other members of the care team including providers, nurses and other clinic support members.

**Cardiology/Heart Failure**

The Cardiology/Heart Failure learning experience involves the provision of pharmaceutical care for patients in a 36-bed cardiac telemetry unit. The resident will gain experience in the management of various acute and chronic cardiovascular disease states, cardiovascular post-operative care, anticoagulation and anti-arrhythmic therapies.

Under the supervision of the preceptor, the resident will actively collaborate with providers, nursing staff, and care management to deliver optimal patient care. The resident will be responsible for processing medication orders, monitoring drug therapy regimens, completing pharmacy consults, and delivering drug therapy recommendations. In addition to daily patient care activities, the resident will gain knowledge and experience in cardiovascular pharmacotherapy through topic discussions, journal clubs and/or formal presentations. This learning experience strives to provide the resident with opportunities to learn to function as an independent practitioner and integrate both knowledge and experience to provide excellent clinical pharmacy services to this patient care area.

**Critical Care**

This rotation will provide the resident the opportunity to focus on patients requiring intensive care services and telemetry monitoring. The resident will work closely with the decentralized pharmacists assigned to the 5100 unit identifying medication issues, managing medication therapy, and responding to drug information questions. During this rotation the resident will be responsible for attending ICU multi-disciplinary rounds, inpatient “Code Blues” and Antibiotic Stewardship Rounds as
needed for the patients on 5100. The resident will work closely with preceptor, team pharmacists, nursing staff, intensivists, hospitalists and many specialist providers (cardiologists, neurologists, neurosurgery NPs, etc.) to develop appropriate evidence-based care plans for 5100 patients.

By the end of the rotation, the resident should have a strong working knowledge of the pharmacist's role in both telemetry and Intensive Care Unit patient care. They should also have a strong working knowledge of a pharmacist's role as a member of a multi-discipline care team. The resident should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the medical management of the common disease states seen on St Joseph's ICU/telemetry unit such as ventilated patients, strokes (ischemic & hemorrhagic), post-op open heart, post-op neurosurgical patients, ICU delirium. The resident should be able to effectively, efficiently and independently provide clinical services to this patient care area. The preceptor and co-preceptors will be responsible for facilitating learning experiences, evaluation and routine feedback to the resident.

**Emergency Medicine**

The Emergency Medicine Learning Experience will focus on the emergency management of patients in a busy 22-bed community hospital Emergency Department (ED) and associated 4-bed Behavioral Emergency Care (BEC) unit. The resident will work closely with the ED pharmacist to provide clinical pharmacy services to patients in collaboration with various members of the ED care team. The resident will participate in codes, intubations, and procedural sedations as able, as well as obtain medication histories, research drug questions for providers, review antibiotic orders, and perform other daily operations expected of the ED pharmacist. By the end of the rotation, the resident should have a strong working knowledge of the pharmacist’s role as a member of a multi-disciplinary care team in the ED.

**General Medicine and Surgery**

General Medicine & Surgery is a 5-week core experiential rotation on the 3 medical/surgical patient care units in the hospital along with time spent in the surgical admitting unit. This rotation will introduce the resident to a variety of disease states and surgeries providing them the opportunity to become proficient in managing this patient population. The resident will be responsible for daily review of medication profiles, identification of and resolution of any medication related issues, improving medication dosing and utilization, provision of medication information for physicians and nurses, and reconciliation of home medications. The resident will actively collaborate and communicate with physicians, NPs, PAs, medical residents, nurses and other members within the patient's care team. Other opportunities for development include Antimicrobial Stewardship Rounding and precepting pharmacy students.

**Infectious Disease**

The Infectious Disease rotation is a four week learning experience in the PGY-1 residency program at St. Joseph's Hospital. The rotation is intended to expose the resident to antibiotics, antifungals and antivirals most commonly encountered in the acute care setting. During the rotation the resident will design patient-centered, evidence-based antimicrobial regimens. The resident will collaborate with
infectious disease physicians, nursing staff, lab personnel, infection control and prevention control personnel, and other pharmacists in the provision of pharmaceutical care specific to antimicrobial therapy. Additionally, the rotation provides exposure to antibiotic stewardship through active involvement in St. Joseph’s antibiotic management team (AMT) rounds.

**Informatics**

This rotation will help the resident become familiar with the key principles utilized in hospitals and health systems to improve pharmacy informatics, automation and health information technology. The resident will primarily work with the pharmacy leadership staff at HealthEast and secondarily with members of the Pharmacy Informatics department. The resident will learn by directly working with the automation software, discussing topics and readings with the preceptor and other pharmacy staff, through shadowing opportunities and by attending other meetings relevant to the rotation. The preceptor will be responsible to facilitate learning experiences, evaluation, and routine feedback to the resident.

**Lean Pharmacy**

This rotation will help the resident become familiar with the key principles of the Lean improvement system utilized at HealthEast. The resident will learn about Lean, the common Lean tools utilized by HealthEast, and how to leverage these tools to improve the way we complete our work. The resident will gain an understanding of the core principles of the HealthEast Lean system, including, but not limited to; Front Line Management System, Standard Work, A3 Thinking, Strategy Deployment, Value Stream Mapping, and the Gemba. The preceptor will be responsible to facilitate learning experiences, evaluation, and routine feedback to the resident.

**Medication Safety**

Medication safety is a longitudinal rotation to increase the resident’s knowledge in medication safety issues at the health-system, state and national level. The resident will have the opportunity to lead a year-long project, conduct a medication use evaluation, identify and implement an idea related to patient safety, conduct a gap analysis of medication safety best practices and review site medication safety events. Along with these activities the residents will attend monthly topic discussions with the preceptor to learn how to recognize safety issues, understand healthcare at risk behaviors and discuss principles of leading change. The resident will participate in the HealthEast Medication Safety Committee meeting a minimum of three times during the residency year.

**Medication Therapy Management**

The medication management (MTM) rotation is an elective learning experience that will take place within several of the HealthEast clinics and/or specialty clinics. This rotation will expose the resident to outpatient management of patients and highlight how this differs from inpatient management. There is a focus on chronic disease management and direct patient care. During this rotation, the resident will work collaboratively with the primary care team to address each patient’s medication related concerns to help the patient get the most benefit from his or her
medications. The resident will advance his or her clinical skills through extensive direct patient care experiences and develop competency in providing evidence-based, patient-centered medication management services. The resident will comprehensively review the patient’s medications, assess vital signs, evaluate laboratory results, identify drug therapy problems and practice motivational interviewing skills in order to develop a treatment plan with the patient.

**Mental Health and Addiction Medicine**

This rotation will focus on the treatment of mental health patients in the inpatient setting. The resident will work as part of an interdisciplinary team to treat commonly seen disease states such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders. The resident will be responsible for following patients throughout the course of their admission by performing order verification, answering drug information questions, identifying medication interventions, and completing pharmacist consults. The resident will also be responsible for attending patient care rounds twice weekly and medication education group once weekly. Topic discussions and patient case presentations will be held daily with preceptors. The primary preceptor and secondary preceptors will be responsible for facilitating learning experiences and providing routine feedback.

**Oncology**

This rotation provides an opportunity for residents to provide care for those patients diagnosed with solid tumor malignancies, myeloma, myelodysplastic disorder and lymphoma. In addition to learning about these malignancies, the resident will gain experience in immunotherapies given in an infusion center for non-oncologic diseases. The resident is expected to be a drug information resource to the team. Additional rotation activities include topic discussions, participation in patient education of chemotherapy regimens, and development of new chemotherapy protocols. Residents may have other activities including pharmacy and nursing in-services or small projects.

**Orientation**

This learning experience will orient residents to hospital and department policies and procedures. Residents will complete departmental automation, clinical and policy competency validations and receiving training in central and decentralized practice areas. Formulary management, residency requirements, and computer systems will be reviewed to allow the resident to perform the responsibilities of a staff pharmacist. Emphasis will be placed on learning the workings of the department from a technician, intern, and pharmacist role.

**Pain Management**

The focus of this rotation is providing acute pain management services to hospitalized patients. A primary focus will be pain experienced by Orthopaedic/Spine surgery patients as well as pain management in other patient populations such as general surgery, sickle cell, oncology related pain, and acute on chronic pain in medical patients. The resident will assist the HealthEast Acute Pain Team in performing pain assessments on patients, identifying pain management issues and problems, developing a pharmacological care plan with the interdisciplinary team, implementing and monitoring the plan, and participating in discharge
planning. An emphasis will be placed on developing the resident’s knowledge in multimodal post-operative and medical pain management.

The residents will interact daily with members of the inpatient and outpatient interdisciplinary team, consisting of physicians, advanced practice nurses, bedside nurses, occupational therapists, acupuncturists, and pharmacists. Residents will attend weekly care rounds, as well as daily review of patient medications, outcomes, and side-effects.

**Practice Management and Leadership**

The St. Joseph’s Hospital practice management and leadership rotation will give the resident a thorough understanding of the administrative leadership roles in a community hospital setting. The resident will actively participate in the decision making processes that support continuity of pharmacy care across the system and assist in the coordination of management resources within the department to accomplish tasks. Objectives of this rotation will be completed by working on assigned projects, having discussions with the preceptor(s), and by attending various interdisciplinary/administrative meetings. Focus areas of the rotation include, but are not limited to, budgeting and finances review, productivity monitoring, lean leadership and strategy deployment, personnel management, regulatory compliance, and operational and clinical leadership, and strategic planning.

**Research**

The research project learning experience is required for all residents. The purpose of the learning experience is to provide the resident with the opportunity to improve his/her research, project management, presentation, and leadership skills. Successful completion of a research project will better prepare the resident for practice and give the resident the necessary tools to continue research and continuous quality improvement as a pharmacist practitioner.

**Staffing**

This longitudinal learning experience provides the resident opportunities to develop foundational skills in hospital pharmacy practice through staffing of the central pharmacy and medical/surgical units. Training will focus on acquiring the skills and knowledge necessary to be an independent practitioner. The central staffing experience will allow the resident to develop proficiency in automated central distribution, narcotic distribution, extemporaneous oral preparations, medication order processing, IV and TPN admixture. Additional skills gained while staffing decentralized areas include proficiency in order entry and verification, understanding and applying policies and procedures of the pharmacy into the workflow, and incorporating best practices into the overall management of medications.

**Teaching Certificate**

The HealthEast Teaching Certificate is an elective longitudinal learning experience available to HealthEast pharmacy residents. The purpose of the teaching certificate elective is to develop the teaching, precepting, and mentoring skills of residents so they will be better equipped to
provide education as clinical practitioners. The teaching certificate elective will require the resident to cultivate teaching skills through self-study, group discussions, focused activities, providing and attending educational lectures, co-precepting students, providing feedback to students and peers, and self-reflection. At completion of this learning experience, the resident should have strong teaching skills and the confidence to provide education effectively in a clinical setting.

**Traumatic Brain Injury**

This rotation will focus on providing clinical pharmacy services to Bethesda Hospital and our patient population that have suffered a traumatic brain injury. During the 5 week rotation, the resident will be responsible for attending care service rounds and patient care rounds each morning. The resident will also provide all clinical services to the care units under the supervision of the decentralized/clinical pharmacist. They will also become familiar with the decentralized pharmacist’s responsibilities and procedures. The resident will also participate in our med reconciliation program, including obtaining med histories and discharge counseling. By the end of the rotation the resident should be able to effectively and efficiently provide clinical services to the hospital and be able to work as an effective decentralized pharmacist.