

PHARMACIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, an incumbent in this class is a professional pharmacist who responds to requests for preparing and dispensing medications and other pharmaceuticals in order to fill written prescriptions issued by physicians, dentists and other qualified prescribers. Pharmaceutical services are performed in accordance with established and approved protocols and New York State Health Department regulations for dispensing and storing medications and controlled substances. Incumbents serve as health resource persons in a multidisciplinary health care team approach, advising on the pharmacology aspects of patient treatment plans when consulted. Work may be subject to shift assignment and weekend/holiday rotation schedules. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Reviews and fills written prescriptions, using the unit dose dispensing system, determines the ingredients needed, and assures that overdoses have not been prescribed or that toxic compounds will not result from combining ingredients;

Maintains individual patient medication profiles and refers to them for drug incompatibilities, drug allergies and drug interactions;

Contacts physicians to verify patient medication orders for dose, route, name, frequency of administration;

Provides information to physicians and other qualified prescribers on the availability of new drugs, warnings on currently marketed drugs, incompatibility of certain drugs and contraindications of drugs and other pharmaceuticals;

Operates automated pharmaceutical data base to retrieve the most updated information and control the dispensing of drugs;

Insures that medications are properly labeled for identification, direction for use, dosage, and dated so detailed accountability is maintained;

Insures that dispensed drugs are delivered on time;

Insures that drugs and pharmaceuticals are properly stored, secured, rotated for shelf-life, re-ordered to maintain adequate supplies, and properly disposed of;

Dispenses controlled drugs and maintains proper inventory records in accordance with established protocols, rules and regulations;

Oversees the preparation of parenteral medications by non-licensed supportive personnel to insure the correct drug is prepared and labeled for patient administration in accordance with New York State Board of Pharmacy Rules & Regulations;

Insures that the Pharmacy area is maintained in a clean and orderly fashion;

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only) (Cont'd.)

Controls the dispensing, ordering and recordkeeping of investigational antineoplastic medications according to FDS guidelines to ensure the proper medication is dispensed, that sufficient drug is available and that accurate and detailed accountability is maintained;

Instructs patients on the proper use of the drugs;

Compounds non-sterile and sterile preparations, and maintains required records;

Prepares written reports and medication reviews as required;

Keeps abreast of advances in the field of pharmacology through conferences, seminars, continuing education and scientific journals.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of the science, practices and procedures of modern pharmacology; ability to understand, interpret and fill written prescriptions and formularies; ability to understand the composition and properties of a large variety of drugs, their manufacture and uses, their pharmacologic action, and procedures for testing their purity and strength; ability to measure, weigh, and package drugs using accurate computation; ability to work well with physicians and other health professionals; sound professional judgment; tact; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of a valid license and current registration as a pharmacist issued by New York State.