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Developing interprofessionalism in pharmacy education at a distance campus

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Abstract

The main campus of the UF College of Pharmacy (COP) is located at the UF Academic Health Center (AHC) in Gainesville, with three distance campuses in Jacksonville, St. Petersburg, and Orlando. Until 2012, Interprofessional (IPE) activities included IPE communication and team rounds during Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs) for all students and an IPE experience for students on the Gainesville campus. Since 2001, the UF COP students on the Gainesville campus have participated in a first-year IPE experience conducted cooperatively with other health professions programs. During this experience, teams of interprofessional students visit patient families in the community and complete activities that promote health and wellness throughout the year.

It was determined that IPE activities were needed at each of the distance campuses and each was tasked with the development of these activities. It was realized that the partners and curricular design at each distant campus would be different because of the unique educational and partnership opportunities at each campus.

The Jacksonville campus, located at the Shands Jacksonville Health Science Center, created new IPE opportunities for both their first and second year students. During students' first professional pharmacy year, students are grouped with nursing students from a nearby university and participate in health screenings in the community. Similar to the Gainesville students, they also visit with patient families and discuss their interventions with nursing faculty, pharmacists, and medical students. In the second professional year, students review cases during three half-day team-based learning sessions led by interprofessional faculty.

Biography

Dr. Carol Motycka graduated from the University of Florida with her Pharm.D. in 1998. She then completed a residency in Ambulatory Care at Florida Hospital in Orlando. Following the residency, Dr. Motycka was hired as the Pharmaceutical Care Coordinator for Florida Hospital DeLand. Dr. Motycka became the Director of the Jacksonville Campus in July 2002 to help build the University of Florida College of Pharmacy program in Jacksonville. She was later appointed Assistant Dean of the Campus where she spends her time teaching, caring for patients, counseling, and administrating.

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