CANADIAN PHARMACY PRACTICE PROGRAM
Therapeutics

Course Description

This course will explore medical conditions commonly found in community practice and their treatment that have been chosen to reflect the greatest need of the practising pharmacist. Students will acquire the therapeutic knowledge needed for the management of patient-specific drug-related problems and the provision of safe and effective drug therapy.

Course Objectives

Students in this course will be expected to:

1. Describe the basic pathophysiology, etiology, prognosis, and signs and symptoms associated with common medical disorders.
2. Given a patient’s diagnosis and history, identify the goals of therapy, list the viable treatment alternatives, recommend a rational approach to the therapy of the disorder and justify that approach.
3. List the most common potential adverse effects, drug interactions and other drug-related complications of the therapy.
4. Describe the expected outcomes(s) of therapy and the appropriate therapeutic monitoring parameters to ensure achievement of outcomes.
5. Identify potential or actual Drug Therapy Problems and explain how they can be prevented or managed.
6. Identify and describe the important patient counselling points for the planned treatment regimen.

Educational Outcomes

This course will primarily focus on a number of outcomes:

1. Critical thinking skills
2. Information access and evaluation skills
3. Apply and integrate knowledge
4. Meet patients’ drug-related needs

Course Topics

1. Drug Therapy Problems (DTPs)
2. Therapeutic Thought Process (TTP)
3. Drug Safety (Adverse Drug Reactions [ADRs])
4. Drug Interactions I
5. Drug Interactions II
6. Drug Hypersensitivity (Allergy)
7. Asthma/Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
8. Cancer Treatment in the Community
9. Congestive Heart Failure
10. Depression
11. Diabetes Type 1
12. Diabetes Type 2
13. Drugs in Pregnancy & Lactation
14. Gastrointestinal Disorders
15. Geriatric Issues
16. Hypertension/Dyslipidemia
17. Infectious Diseases I
18. Infectious Diseases II
19. Men’s Health
20. Paediatric Issues
21. Pain
22. Post Myocardial Infarction/Anticoagulants
23. Psychological Disorders (Anxiety)
24. Women’s Health

**Learning Strategies**

Learning strategies will include completion of reading assignments from textbooks and primary literature, evaluation of therapeutics data from primary literature and will make extensive use of the case study format.

**Assessment Strategies**

Assessment strategies are learning-centred and include continuous assessment throughout the course to track personal growth and learning. Material in this module is foundational to learning in other modules. Assignments in those other modules (Pharmacy Care Plans, Lab assignments) will be used as evaluation tools to determine students’ progress and to determine any supportive sessions that need be given on any of the areas of difficulty.

**Required Texts**

Compendium of Therapeutic Choices: Canadian Pharmacists Association - 7th edition