

# Experiential Express

## ALBANY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

### Longitudinal Health and Wellness IPPE Rotation\*

By Francesca Rini, P2 Student

December 2015  
Volume 10, Issue 2

I completed my Longitudinal Health and Wellness Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) Rotation last spring semester at the Alzheimer's Association. Alzheimer's is a disease I have always taken particular interest in, so I was excited to begin my rotation at the association's Northeastern Chapter to learn more about it. My preceptor and his colleagues were very welcoming and provided me with numerous opportunities to gain more knowledge. On the first day of my internship, I participated in a Valentine's Day themed game of bingo with patients who had Alzheimer's and their caregivers. I saw first-hand how the disease affects the brain through the memory loss and increased confusion experienced by these elderly men and women. Although many of the patients had difficulty remembering new facts and information, they were amazingly able to recall popular love songs and romance movies from their generation. Caring for a patient who has Alzheimer's is heartbreaking and involves immense pressure; the Alzheimer's Association understands the hardships these caregivers endure and designs programs like these to give them hours of respite and assistance.

As my IPPE rotation continued, I had the privilege of representing the association at the Health and Sciences Fair at the Albany Community Center. Along with another intern, I greeted families and couples that stopped by our information booth and was able to provide them with answers to their questions and concerns. Many elderly men and women wanted to learn more about Alzheimer's, worried that their significant other was starting to show signs and symptoms of the disease. Based on what I learned from my preceptor, I was able to discuss with them the key differences between normal aging and the specific indications caused by Alzheimer's. Younger men and women also stopped by and explained how they were taking care of either their mother or father who suffered from

Alzheimer's disease. They appreciated when I gave them pamphlets regarding the different support groups and financial planning services the Alzheimer's Association offers to caregivers.

The "Virtual Dementia Tour" was the last event I participated in as part of my IPPE rotation. It is a simulation activity adopted by the Alzheimer's Association that allows participants to directly experience the symptoms and struggles Alzheimer's patients face on a daily basis. My preceptor and I transformed the Rite Aid Lounge on the ACPHS Campus into the dementia tour setting (see picture at left) and over a dozen students came to participate. The volunteers experienced a number of Alzheimer's symptoms including loss of memory, decreased motor function, difficulty hearing, and intensified confusion upon completion of the simulation. The feedback from the students was very positive; they

believed it was an informative experience that helped them empathize more with Alzheimer's patients and learn the frustration, sadness, and pain these individuals suffer. I am very grateful for the opportunity to complete my rotation at the Alzheimer's Association. This opportunity allowed me to learn more about the disease, help patients and caregivers, and spread awareness to others.



Francesca Rini

### Inside this Issue

- APPE Health & Wellness Project
- FDA Pharmacists Launch New Episodes
- Emergency Preparedness Demonstration
- Annual Preceptor Training
- PhIT Portfolio
- Preceptor Recognition



\*The longitudinal Health and Wellness IPPE is a rotation done 4 hours/week over 10 weeks.

## APPE Health and Wellness Portfolio Projects



Student Steve Farley and Preceptor Megan Rogan

We are now well into our fifth module (E) and the APPE Community Health and Wellness Projects from past modules have been submitted and graded. This is the first year for this project and at first glance, it appears to be successful and accepted by both students and preceptors. The goal of this project is to have the students engage in outreach projects that highlight the value of pharmacists to their community. Subject matter has reflected the seasons. Summer projects included poison ivy treatment, hydration, sunscreens, allergy relief, and tick bites. Fall has brought on many immunizations projects, with students preparing educational materials on the importance of the influenza (and other)

vaccines as well as participation in flu clinics (Vermont students can actually perform immunizations per state law). Other topics have included blood pressure screenings, MTM projects, "Ask the Pharmacy Intern" sessions, probiotics, and nutrition.

Students were given a format for reporting their projects and were graded by a rubric developed by the Division of Experiential Education. The results have been colorful, educational, and interesting. Students are given the chance to be creative and many have been given exemplary grades for their projects. Judging by the smiles on their faces, it appears to be a gratifying experience.



Cassandra Mathers, Hanna Ford  
Hanna Ford Pharmacy  
in So Burlington, VT

## FDA Pharmacists Launch New Episodes of Drug Info Rounds Videos

### Attention all pharmacists!

Did you know that FDA writes and films videos just for you? The team of pharmacists at FDA's Division of Drug Information wants their fellow pharmacists to have quick, easy access to information about FDA initiatives, programs, and databases. They recently announced the release of their brand new videos, and we want to share them with you!

The first video in FDA's new series is *Medication Adherence*. In less than three minutes, FDA pharmacists share tips and tools to help you and your patients better communicate about safe medication use, including:

- For your patients: *Stop – Learn – Go – Tips for Talking with Your Pharmacist*
- For you: *Scriptyourfuture.org* – offering wallet cards, posters, door hangers and more for use in your pharmacy

Other videos coming soon in the new series of *Drug Info Rounds* include:

- Breakthrough Therapy
- Antibiotic Resistance (available at: [Antibiotic Resistance](#))
- MedWatch Tips & Tools (tutorial)

The most popular videos from previous seasons include:

- Accelerated Approval
- Medication Errors
- Disposal of Unused Medicines
- Electronic Orange Book

Watch online at: [www.fda.gov/DrugInfoRounds](http://www.fda.gov/DrugInfoRounds)

*Drug Info Rounds are created and produced by pharmacists in FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Office of Communications, Division of Drug Information (DDI). DDI pharmacists respond to over 70,000 inquiries per year about FDA initiatives and regulated drugs from healthcare professionals, industry, and consumers. The Drug Info Rounds video series provides important and useful drug information to health care providers, helping them become better clinicians and, ultimately, improving patient safety.*

## Emergency Preparedness Demonstration: Anthrax

### The extraordinary experience of an P4 student – by Rebecca Carr



*Mena Raouf, Mina Eskander, Rebecca Carr, Jenna Colgan, John Caswell and Dr. Mojica*

Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences offers a plethora of opportunities to students of all academic years. Through my years of academia I have experienced many things, however nothing could compare to the extraordinary opportunity that I was given by participating in the Anthrax Emergency Preparedness demonstration held in Voorheesville on May 21. During the demonstration, we were given a scenario in which a terrorist group had released anthrax exposing a large population. It was our duty, as pharmacists, to distribute ciprofloxacin and doxycycline to over 4,000 patients in 48 hours (although, the demonstration itself lasted only a few hours). This feat proved difficult, however an algorithm was created in order to make a seamless distribution of the medication based on set criteria



*Dr. Mojica and Mena Raouf during the distribution.*

(i.e. pregnancy status, allergies, medication history, patient history of myasthenia gravis, etc.). We used M&M tubes as the Rx vials of Doxycycline (PINK) and Ciprofloxacin (YELLOW) in order to best demonstrate the distribution process. In addition, we were also responsible for counseling patients on the medication, stressing the importance of adherence, and answering questions about anthrax exposure. This experience allowed me to act independently as a pharmacist and further prepared me as

I embark on the pathway of becoming a healthcare professional.



*M&M containers were used as prescription vials of Ciprofloxacin and Doxycy-*

## August 2015 ACPHS Annual Preceptor Training

On August 13, 2015, the Division of Experiential Education, in conjunction with the Office of Continuing Professional Development at ACPHS, hosted the Annual Preceptor Training and a Medication Safety Symposium. The first half of the program kicked off with a presentation titled, “Pharmacy Sterile Compounding: Improving Safety and Quality, Technology and Robotics” followed by a second presentation, “Reducing Prescription Errors: Focus on Bar Code Assisted Med Check.” After a morning of medication safety, the afternoon provided preceptors with an enlightening discussion on what is new in Experiential Education, “Personalized Precepting: Strategies for Teaching Students and Residents at Different Levels within Pharmacy Practices” and concluding with “Cultivating ‘Habits of the Mind’ in Student Pharmacists: Developing Reflective Practitioners.” The preceptor training and med safety symposium materials were recorded and are available at the following link: <http://sns.acphs.edu/p.jsp?i=441>. Username: CEuse.

The next Continuing Education program is “The Pharmacist and Patient-Centered Diabetes Care.” It will be hosted at ACPHS on January 16, 2016.

## 2015 Preceptor Recognition Awards

PRESENTED AT SENIOR AWARDS DINNER, MAY 13, 2015, ALBANY DESMOND

**Experiential Education Director's Award:** Sarah L. Scarpace, Pharm.D., Assistant Dean, ACPHS, and St. Peter's Health Partners, Albany, NY

Dean Scarpace is a Pharm.D. graduate of SUNY Buffalo and has served on the ACPHS faculty since 2004. During her tenure at ACPHS, Dean Scarpace has emerged as a national and board-certified leader in the field of oncology, and served as a preceptor to several dozen ACPHS students, offering a high quality ambulatory care oncology rotation at the Stratton VA Medical Center, and more recently St. Peter's Health Partners. Additionally, Dr. Scarpace has served for a decade on the Pharmacy Experiential Education Committee, where she has been instrumental in engaging preceptors in a number of initiatives that she coordinates, including White Coat Ceremony; P1 Orientation Career Explorations; P3- Sendoff Ceremony; and the Professionalism Code of Conduct. All of these initiatives were enhanced by Dr. Scarpace's engagement of preceptors, and her efforts have not gone unnoticed. The Experiential Education Division is grateful to have such an innovative collaborator, talented preceptor, and nationally recognized colleague in Dr. Scarpace.

**Distinguished Preceptor:** Trish White, B.S., R.Ph., White's Pharmacy, Sitka, Alaska

Trish White received her BS in Pharmacy from Oregon State and returned to Alaska where she has practiced pharmacy for 32 years. She is the owner of White's Pharmacy, serving the Inuit Native Americans in Sitka, Alaska. Over the past decade, Trish has graciously hosted approximately 30 ACPHS students on a specialty APPE rotation. We use the word "hosted" because she provides our students complimentary housing and bicycle transportation while they are on rotation! She continually exhibits a high degree of passion, knowledge, and professionalism, all of which are noticed by our students.

A third Distinguished Preceptor award was given to **Corrin Tota, R.Ph.** from Shop Rite in New Jersey. Corrin was, unfortunately, not able to attend the event, but we congratulate her on her accomplishments as a preceptor over the last five years.



Dirk White (far left), Students, Lawrie Briceland, Trish White (in blue), Terry Towers

PRESENTED AT SENIOR SALUTE AWARDS DINNER, MAY 14, 2015, ESSEX RESORT AND SPA, VT

**Distinguished Preceptor:** Mark DiParlo, R.Ph. (UVM)



Sandy Rosa and Mark DiParlo

Mark DiParlo is the Director of Pharmacy at the UVMMC Outpatient Pharmacy and has been a preceptor for the IPPE Community rotations since June of 2012. Mark is the kind of preceptor we like to see: He assesses each student for their experience level and then assigns them to the appropriate facility to optimize their learning experience. All students get a chance to see all the levels of the Outpatient pharmacies, providing them with a comprehensive rotation experience. He has developed the IPPE Community Plus longitudinal rotation for students desiring additional experience in the community setting. Mark has also been instrumental in editing and refining the IPPE Community Pharmacy workbook, which covers the core elements of Community pharmacy practice.

**Preceptor of the Year Award:** Clayton English, Pharm.D. Assistant Professor, ACPHS and University of Vermont Medical Center (UVM)

This year's Preceptor of the Year award went to one of our very own Vermont faculty, Dr. Clayton English. After completing his Pharm.D. degree at the University of Connecticut, he proceeded to South Florida Hospital, in conjunction with Nova Southeastern University, where he did a residency in clinical psychopharmacology. From there, he drove his Honda Civic (obeying all speed limits and traffic laws!) to the ACPHS Vermont Campus to start taking students in August of 2011 at the UVMMC (formerly Fletcher Allen). The comments we have received from students about Dr. English confirm the profound and lasting impression he has made as a preceptor.



Sandy Rosa and Clayton English



Albany College of Pharmacy  
AND HEALTH SCIENCES

106 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208

**Editor:**

Debra Feinberg, JD, BS, RPh, FASHP  
(P) 518-694-7892 | (F) 518-694-7302  
Debra.Feinberg@acphs.edu

**Contributing Writers:**

Laurie Briceland, Pharm.D.  
Sandra Rosa, RPh.  
Francesca Rini, P2 Student  
Rebecca Carr, P4 Student

**MISSION**

*Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is committed to  
graduating the best health care minds in the world.*

**VISION**

*Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences will be nationally and  
internationally recognized for the development of accomplished and  
outstanding students through innovative approaches to teaching,  
pioneering research, and service.*

***www.acphs.edu***

## The Pharmacist-In-Training (PhIT) Portfolio

It takes more than didactic and experiential coursework for a student pharmacist to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary to be a pharmacist. The Pharmacist-in-Training (PhIT) Portfolio is an opportunity for student pharmacists to reflect on their experiences in various co-curricular opportunities while enhancing their personal and professional development in a systematic way. Activities which are difficult to include in traditional didactic and experiential courses may be included in the portfolio. Experiences will be coordinated by the Experiential Education Division and will include (but not be limited to): annual completion of a continuous professional development plan (CPD); pharmacy advocacy; participation in professional organization meetings; participation in guest speaker presentations that foster professional, academic, and personal growth and awareness of contemporary pharmacy practice issues. P1 Orientation activities and reflections on the White Coat Ceremony will also be captured in the PhIT portfolio. Students will enroll in this program in the fall of the P1 year and will complete the assignments by the end of the spring of the P3 year. A personalized certificate which describes the unique activities completed by the student to achieve the goals of the PhIT Portfolio will be awarded at a Pinning Ceremony at the end of the P3 year. Reflection papers will culminate in an annual update of the student's curriculum vitae and a cover letter designed to help the student articulate his/her theory and principles of pharmacy practice.

### Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development Upcoming Events

**January 16, 2016: The Pharmacist and Patient-Centered Diabetes Care**

**February 7, 2016: Infectious Disease Symposium**

**>> Contact Lori Kline (Lori.Kline@acphs.edu) for more information.**

### Do you have a rotation news story to contribute to the **Experiential Express?**

Write a brief description of your student project and email it to  
ACPHS Experiential Education Division at [experientialed@acphs.edu](mailto:experientialed@acphs.edu).