



SNS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

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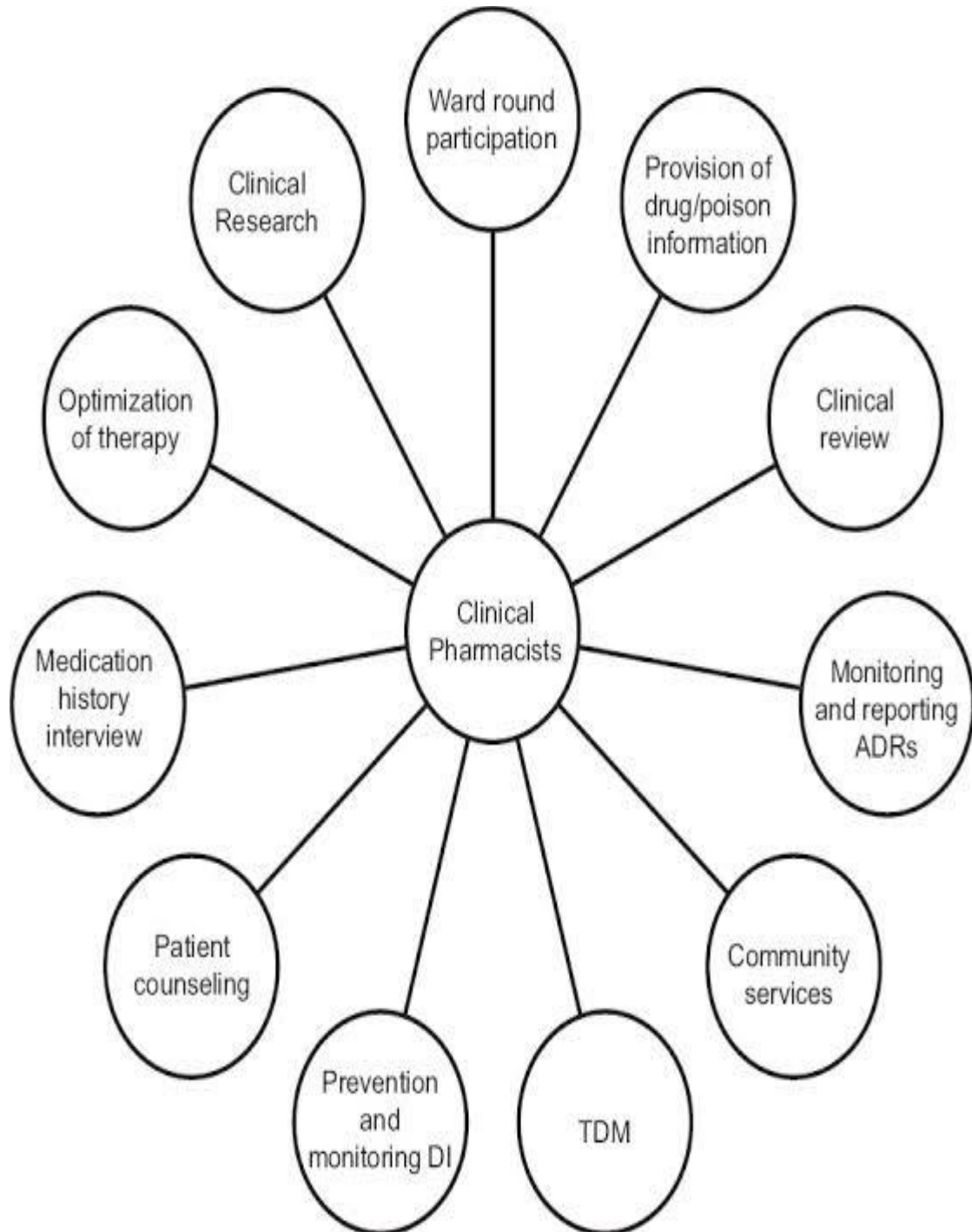
CLINICAL PHARMACY

DEFINITION:

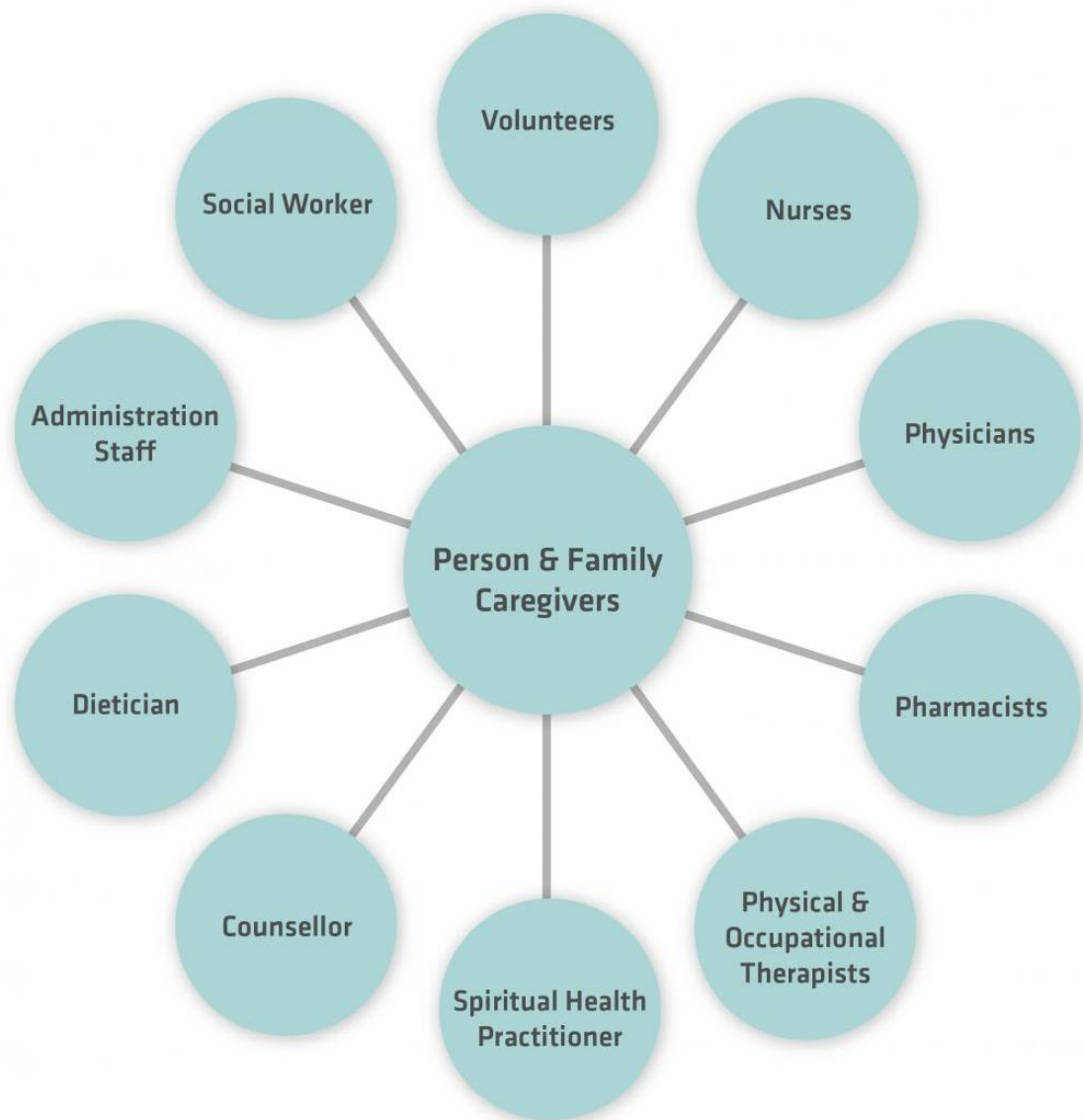
- Clinical pharmacy is the branch of pharmacy in which clinical pharmacists provide direct patient care that optimizes the use of medication and promotes health, wellness and disease prevention.
- Clinical pharmacists care for patients in all health care settings but the clinical pharmacy movement initially began inside hospitals and clinics.
- Clinical pharmacists often work in collaboration with physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and other healthcare professionals.
- Clinical pharmacists can enter into a formal collaborative practice agreement with another healthcare provider, generally one or more physicians, that allows pharmacists to prescribe medications and order laboratory tests.



ROLE OF CLINICAL PHARMACISTS



HEALTH CARE TEAM



Barriers to clinical pharmacy services

- Lack of funding / reimbursement.
- Space.
- Physician acceptance / lack of awareness of pharmacists' abilities.
- Pharmacist recruitment and retention.
- Lack of documentation / tracking to prove impact on clinical services.
- Patients' lack of awareness of pharmacists' abilities.

MEDICATION HISTORY

Medication history is a detailed , accurate and complete account of all prescribed and non-prescribed medications that a patient had taken or is currently taking prior to a initially institutionalized or ambulatory care .

Why it is important to take a medication history for new admissions?

- Medication histories are important in preventing prescription errors and consequent risks to patients.
- Accurate medication histories are also useful in detecting drug-related pathology or changes in clinical signs that may be the result of drug therapy.

If you wonder whether you could do a better job asking the right questions about a patient's medication history at admission, consider these 12 as a great starting point.

- What medications do you take at home?
- What is each medicine for?
- What is the dose?
- What medications do you take for your _____ (identify each medical condition the patient is known to have)?
- What medications do you take every day?
- What medications do you occasionally take?
- When do you take your medications?
- Have you recently started, stopped, or changed the medications you take? How so?
- What medications are prescribed by any specialists you may see?
- Do you use an inhaler (or other medications that are not available as pills, such as eye drops, creams, injections, nasal sprays, patches, and so on)?
- What medications do you take that do not require a prescription?
- When was the last time you took each of your medicines?

PATIENT COUNSELING

Patient counseling refers to the process of providing vital information, advice and assistance to help you with your medications and to ensure you take them properly. This also includes important information about the patient's illness and lifestyle.

Why is patient Counselling important?

- Patient understanding regarding the illness plays a very important role in management of chronic illness.
- Effective patient counseling makes the patient understand his/her illness, necessary lifestyle modifications and pharmacotherapy in a better way and thus enhance patient compliance.

What is the role of pharmacist in patient Counselling?

- Integral to the pharmacy profession is a commitment to promoting health awareness in the community.
- Pharmacists can directly influence positive outcomes for patients by educating and counselling them to assist their compliance to their pharmacotherapeutic regimens and monitoring plans.

What is the purpose of Counselling?

- Counselling is a process of talking about and working through your personal problems with a counsellor.
- The counsellor helps you to address your problems in a positive way by helping you to clarify the issues, explore options, develop strategies and increase self-awareness.

MODERN DISPENSING ASPECTS

What is good dispensing practices?

Good Dispensing Practice ensures that the right medicines of desired quality are delivered correctly to the right patient with the right dose, strength, frequency, dosage form and quantity, together with clear instructions, both written and verbal and with appropriate packaging suitable for maintaining the quality of good dispensing practices.

What are the most common types of medication dispensing errors?

The most common error types reported in the selected studies are:

- Dispensing the wrong drug,
- Dispensing the wrong strength,
- Dispensing the wrong quantity, and
- omission of items.

A detailed description of the dispensing process can be viewed below:

1. Input & Initial Check (Do we have all of the information we need?)
2. Therapeutic Check (Is the prescription right for you?)
3. Preparation.
4. Technical Check (Is the prescription filled accurately?)
5. Supply and Educate.

Why Proper Dispensing Is Important ?

As the professional staffer dispensing medication to patients, you are the last line of defense to prevent tragic mistakes that could cost a patient life. Medications can save lives but medication errors can take them.

How can dispensing errors be prevented?

The following is a list of strategies for minimizing dispensing errors:

- Ensure correct entry of the prescription.
- Confirm that the prescription is correct and complete.
- Beware of look-alike, soundalike drugs.
- Be careful with zeros and abbreviations.
- Organize the workplace.
- Reduce distraction when possible.

What is the role of a pharmacist in the dispensing process?

- Pharmacists contribute the safe and effective use of pharmaceuticals at times when drugs are dispensed.
- They also play a significant role in promoting rational use of drugs, e.g. providing drug information to patient, and carrying out drug utilization studies.