



## ARCHIVES

### August 2011 – October 2011

#### **Self-Assessment in Pharmacy and Health Science Education and Professional Practice**

Self-assessment is an important skill that can be extremely beneficial for pharmacists striving to grow as professionals. This article discusses the terminology (self-assessment vs. self-reflection vs. self-evaluation) and takes a look at the literature to inform pharmacists about self-assessment in professional development. The importance of external assessment and feedback in professional development is highlighted.

Did you know ...two of our courses currently being offered use self-assessment and goal setting to help you improve your practice and level of patient care? Check out the courses Practice Skills: Monitoring drug therapy using laboratory values and Practice Skills: Boot camp for more information.

**American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education 2010; 74(5) Article 85**

### June 2011 – July 2011

#### **How Students Develop Online Learning Skills**

Online learning requires a different set of skills than those of the traditional classroom. Yet online learning has so many positive aspects, namely it enables people to fit learning into their busy lifestyles. This article shares some secrets of students that have successfully used online learning. Read on to find out how you can get the most out of your online learning.

[Educause Quarterly 2007; 30 \(1\)](#)

### March 2011 – May 2011



Celebrate a century of excellence and the profession that made many of your successes possible.....

2011 marks a century of regulated pharmacy in Alberta.

As part of the celebrations, the Centennial Committee invites you to actively engage in this once-in-a-lifetime pharmacy occasion by leaving a legacy for the future.

The Alberta Pharmacists' Centennial Leadership Award has been established to inspire and recognize practitioners of the future. This annual scholarship will be presented to a U of A Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences student in recognition of their significant leadership role in the community.

Our goal is to establish an endowment that would generate at least one year's tuition per annum in interest.

We are personally asking each and every pharmacist in Alberta to contribute a minimum of \$100 towards this legacy.

Once you have clicked on the above link, on the pull down menu choose the Alberta Pharmacists' Centennial Leadership Endowment Award-12390.

A warm thanks from all in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences for your ongoing support!

## January 2011 – February 2011

Looking for a resource to support the use of laboratory values in your practice? Read this book review to find out more about the textbook **Basic Skills in Interpreting Laboratory Data, 4th edition** by Mary Lee.

[American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education 2010; 74\(8\) Article 151](#)

Did you know that the ***Practice Skills: Monitoring drug therapy using laboratory values*** course not only uses this textbook, but it is provided to you with your registration in the course? If you would like to integrate laboratory values in the management of your patients' medication therapy, then this course is ideal for you!

[More details about this course...](#)

## May – December 2010

### Is Pharmacy a Knowledge Based Profession?

The relationship between pharmacy knowledge and professionalism in terms of what the pharmacist knows versus what the pharmacist does (skills) is analyzed and revealed in this review. As technicians are assuming many of the tasks of the pharmacist, there is a shift in pharmacy skills of the pharmacist to

become more patient centered. This author takes an interesting look at the types of knowledge required for the education (and continuing education) of pharmacists and pharmacy practice as it evolves.

[American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education 2010; 74\(3\) Article 50](#)

## **March & April 2010**

### **The Impact of a Standardized Patient Program on Student Learning of Communication Skills**

**Did you know that we offer two courses that use standardized patients for improving patient assessment skills?**

Effective communication skills are integral to patient centered care but difficult to teach in the typical classroom setting. This study shows that the use of standardized patients to support didactic lecture has an impact on pharmacy student communication skills. Read on to find out more about this interesting study.

[American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education 2009; 73\(1\) Article 4](#)

Our next course that utilizes standardized patients is just around the corner at the end of April. It is designed for pharmacists that are looking to help their patients manage the menopause transition. ***Menopause: A short course on assessing and managing the menopause transition***, provides you with the opportunity to interact with standardized patients to hone your patient assessment skills and work toward developing care plans for your patients as they journey through menopause.

The other course is ***Practice Skills: Boot Camp*** -- Watch for future dates!

## **February 2010**

### **Are pharmacists the ultimate barrier to pharmacy practice change?**

As the shift in pharmacist duties from the traditional dispensing and counselling role moves to focus on a more patient-centred approach with improved patient outcomes, the question arises as to what really are the barriers to practice change. In the past, reasons given have ranged from pharmacist time constraints, lack of remuneration, patient apathy, and little support from physicians. But could it be that pharmacists themselves

are the real barrier to practice change? This article offers one perspective. What is yours? Read more of this article to judge for yourself.

[Volume 143, Issue 1 \(January-February 2010\)](#)

## January 2010

### **Sorting through the flu confusion: An interview with Dr. Donald Low**

So much information about the H1N1 flu virus, and not all of it consistent. Here's an interview with Dr. Donald Low, Chief of Microbiology at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto to help sort through the barrage of information and get answers to the questions you may be facing from your patients.

#### **Canadian Pharmacists Journal**

[Volume 142, Issue 6](#) (November-December 2009)

### **Are you looking for an interprofessional learning opportunity?**

The University of Alberta/Alberta Health Services Evidence-based Practice Center will be hosting the 5th "Putting Evidence into Practice" (PEP) Workshop in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, February 18 – 20, 2010. <http://www.pep.ualberta.ca/>

## December 2009

### **Australian pharmacists prefer interactive CE**

In a recent study, Australian community pharmacists preferred continuing education (CE) programs that were interactive and multidisciplinary. Engaging in professional development activities, similar to the RxCEL program in Alberta, was seen as valuable to promote reflective learning. The authors concluded that "Professional organizations should take note of this and ensure that new formats [of professional development] do not compromise the ability of pharmacists to engage in interactive, multidisciplinary, and problem-based CE." The authors also noted that the value of peer networks should not be overlooked.

Mc Namara KP, Duncan GJ, McDowell J, Marriott JL. Community pharmacists' preferences for continuing education delivery in Australia. *Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions* 2009;29(1): 52-57.

**November 2009**

**Alberta pharmacists' activities and attitudes in diabetes management**

Dr. Scot Simpson and others from the University of Alberta report on a survey of pharmacists that looked at the relationship between diabetes-specific training and pharmacists' activities in and attitudes toward diabetes management. A key point of the article was that "continuing education initiatives should consider incorporating an active practice component to help nurture the new knowledge and foster an increased capacity of pharmacists for diabetes management."

This article is accessible at [www.cpjournal.ca](http://www.cpjournal.ca)

Simpson SH, Haggarty S, Johnson JA, Schindel TJ, Tsuyuki RT, Lewanczuk R. Survey of Pharmacist Activities and Attitudes in Diabetes Management. *Canadian Pharmacists Journal* 2009;142:128-34.