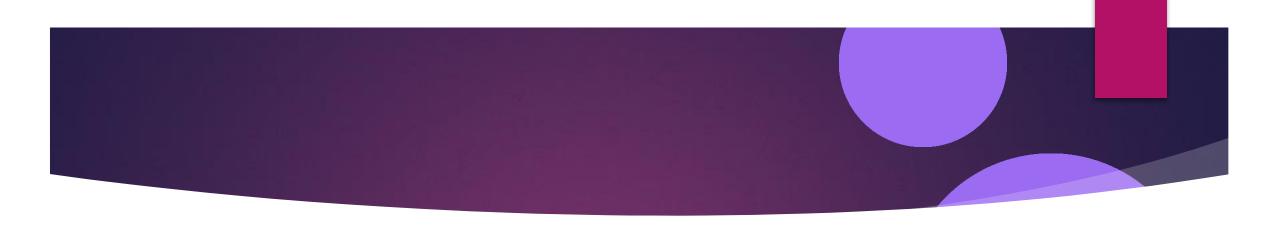
COMMUNITY PHARMACY



COMMUNITY PHARMACY

A retail setup in a community where patient is provided with complete information and assistance regarding his/her medication and health under the personal supervision of a skilled, trained and competent pharmacist.

COMMUNITY PHARMACIST

A person licensed to prepare, compound and dispense drugs upon written order (prescription) from a licensed practitioner such as a physician, dentist or advanced practice nurse. A pharmacist is a health care professional who cooperates with, consults with, and sometimes advises the licensed practitioner concerning drugs.

SOCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PHARMACY

Definition:

"is concerned with understanding how and why medicines are used in society and how to optimize pharmaceutical-related regulation, reimbursement, and policy pertaining to medicines and pharmacy practice".

Or

- ► "The endeavor to integrate drugs into a broader perspective and to include legal, ethical, economic, political, social, communicative, and psychological aspects into their evaluation in order to contribute to the safe and rational use of drugs".
- Social pharmacy can be considered to consist of all the social factors that influence medicine use, such as medicine-related beliefs, regulations, policy, attitudes, medicine information, ethics and behavior.

FIVE STAR PHARMACIST

Every competent pharmacist is called as five star pharmacist. A five star pharmacist must have following properties:

- A good care provider
- Excellent communicator
- Excellent community minder
- Top decision maker
- Manager/ leader

What is the scope of Community pharmacy?

- In processing prescriptions- The pharmacist verifies the legality, safety and appropriateness of the prescription order, checks the patient medication record before dispensing the prescription (when such records are kept in the pharmacy), ensures that the quantities of medication are dispensed accurately, and decides whether the medication should be handed to the patient, with appropriate counseling, by a pharmacist
- Clinical pharmacy- The pharmacist seeks to collect and integrate information about the patient's drug history, dosage regimen
- Patient care- patient drug history, mode of administration, precautions, advices
- Drug monitoring- as practice research projects, and schemes to analyze prescriptions for the monitoring of adverse drug reactions
- Extemporaneous preparation- pharmacists engage in the smallscale manufacture of medicines, which must accord with good manufacturing and distribution practice guidelines.

- Alternative medicines- In some countries, pharmacists supply traditional medicines and dispense homoeopathic prescriptions
- Checking symptoms of minor aliments- pharmacist can supply a non-prescription medicine, with advice to consult a medical practitioner if the symptoms persist for more than a few days. Alternatively, the pharmacist may give advice without supplying medicine.
- Health care professionals- provide the information as necessary to other health care professionals and to patients, and use it in promoting the rational use of drugs, by providing advice and explanations to physicians and to members of the public.
- Counselor- the pharmacist provides an advisory as well as a supply service to residential homes for the elderly, and other long-term patients. In some countries, policies are being developed under which pharmacists will visit certain categories of house-bound patients to provide the counselling service that the patients would have received had they been able to visit the pharmacy
- In prophylaxis and health promotion- The pharmacist can take part in health promotion campaigns, locally and nationally, on a wide range of healthrelated topics, and particularly on drug-related topics (e.g., rational use of drugs, alcohol abuse, tobacco use, discouragement of drug use during pregnancy, organic solvent abuse, poison prevention) or topics concerned with other health problems (diarrhoeal diseases, tuberculosis, leprosy, HIV-infection/AIDS) and family planning.

Activities of community Pharmacist (as per WHO)

1. Processing of prescriptions:

- verifies the legality, safety and appropriateness of the prescription order.
- checks the patient medication record before dispensing the prescription (when such records are kept in the pharmacy).
- ensures that the quantities of medication are dispensed accurately, and decides whether the medication should be handed to the patient, with appropriate counseling.

2. Care of patients or clinical pharmacy.

- The pharmacist seeks to collect and integrate information about the patient's drug history.
- Clarify the patient's understanding of the intended dosage regimen and method of administration.
 - Advises the patient of drug-related precautions.
 - Monitors and evaluates the therapeutic response.

3. Monitoring of drug utilization

Participate in arrangements for monitoring the utilization of drugs, such as practice research projects, and schemes to analyze prescriptions for the monitoring of adverse drug reactions.

4.Traditional and alternative medicines

Supply traditional medicines and dispense homoeopathic prescriptions.

5. Extemporaneous preparation and small-scale manufacture of medicines

- Pharmacists prepare medicines which enables them to adapt the formulation of a medicine to the needs of an individual patient.
- small-scale manufacture of medicines, which must accord with good manufacturing and distribution practice guidelines.

6. Responding to symptoms of minor ailments

- receives requests from members of the public for advice on a variety of symptoms and inquiries to a medical practitioner.
- supply a non-prescription medicine, with advice to consult a medical practitioner for self limiting minor ailments.
- give advice without supplying medicine.

7. Informing health care professionals and the public

- The pharmacist compile and maintain information on all medicines
- Provide this information as necessary to other health care professionals and to patients
- Use it in promoting the rational use of drugs, by providing advice and explanations to physicians and to members of the public.

8. Health promotion

- •Take part in health promotion campaigns, locally and nationally, on a wide range of health-related topics, and particularly on drug-related topics or topics concerned with other health problems and family planning.
- •Take part in the education of local community groups in health promotion, and in campaigns on disease prevention, such as the Expanded Programme on Immunization, and malaria and blindness programmes.

9. Domiciliary services

 They provide an advisory as well as a supply service to residential homes for the elderly, and other long-term patients.

In certain country pharmacists will visit certain categories of house-bound patients to provide the counseling service that the patients would have received had they been able to visit the pharmacy.

10. Agricultural and veterinary practice

 Pharmacists supply animal medicines and medicated animal feeds.