

Area of Concentration in Community Leadership and Innovation in Practice (CLIP ARCO) in the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Program

Purpose

The Area of Concentration in Community Leadership and Innovation in Practice (CLIP) provides students with mentoring and learning experiences to cultivate advanced patient care, develop health service innovations, acquire leadership and management skills, and enhance community health. Students completing the CLIP ARCO will be well prepared to enter leadership and patient care roles in community-based practice and will be highly competitive for residencies and other advanced practice training opportunities.

Description

The role of the pharmacist is rapidly changing. Pharmacists can contribute to the health care team by utilizing tools and skills that facilitate patient care. With significant national support for pharmacists' ability to make an impact on the healthcare of patients, there is an imperative need to address the significant gaps in access to patient care services. Simultaneously, community pharmacy is facing the need to seek alternative sources of revenue to maintain the financial viability of its business model. One of these new revenue sources is patient care services. Students completing the CLIP ARCO will be well prepared to enter leadership and patient care roles in community-based practice and will be highly competitive for residencies and other advanced practice training opportunities. They will be better equipped to:

- Pursue post-graduate training opportunities including residencies and fellowships
- Obtain leadership positions in community practice
- Develop outpatient pharmacy practice sites
- Implement innovative patient care services
- Manage patient care services

The CLIP ARCO offers an in-depth exposure to community-based pharmacy practice providing students with unique coursework, rotations, a scholarly project, and individualized mentorship. By the completion of the requirements for the CLIP ARCO, students will meet the following outcomes:

- CLIP 1: Manage and improve the medication use process.
- CLIP 2: Provide evidence-based, patient-centered care and collaborate with other healthcare professionals to optimize care.
- CLIP 3: Exercise leadership and project management skills.
- CLIP 4: Communicate medication and practice-related information and education.
- CLIP 5: Leverage technology to optimize community-based patient care services.
- CLIP 6: Demonstrate knowledge about connections between community-based practice and other sectors including managed care, public health, and professional advocacy.

Academic Requirements

Coursework

Students enrolled in the CLIP ARCO are required to complete 6 elective credits through the ARCO that will contribute to their total required electives to complete the PharmD curriculum. However, students may choose to complete additional elective credits that would contribute to the student's mastery of the CLIP ARCO's learning objectives. A minimum of one 1-credit Special Topics course (focused on the scholarly project) is required to meet the 6 elective credits for the ARCO.

Required CLIP ARCO Electives:

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
Summer after P2 Year		
PHARM 5819	Community Leadership and Innovation in Practice	3
Fall P3 Year / Spring P3 Year		
PHARM 5845	Community Pharmacy Leadership and Management	1
PHARM 5820	Pharmacy Innovation 1 (<i>paused for 2025-2026 academic year</i>)	1
PHARM xxxx	Special Topics 1 (scholarly project)	1
PHARM xxxx	Special Topics 2 (scholarly project) (<i>suggested; required for 2025-2026 academic year</i>)	1

Experiential Rotations

Students must complete three APPEs during which they will be involved in the direct provision of patient care services in the outpatient setting and one community leadership APPE as an elective. CLIP ARCO students will receive priority placement in their required community rotation and their community leadership elective rotation. **Rotation requirements 1-4 are necessary for completion of the CLIP ARCO.** If there are questions about the specifics of rotation scheduling, please contact Prof. Skledar or Dr. Hall for more discussion.

APPE Requirement*	Description
1. Community	Advanced community practice rotation at a pharmacy with established patient care services. Priority given to pharmacies actively participating in a CPESN network.
2. Ambulatory Care	First ambulatory care rotation as required by ACPE standards.
3. Ambulatory Care-2	Second ambulatory care rotation.
4. Elective 1: Community Pharmacy Leadership	Community pharmacy leadership rotation that includes experiences in pharmacy management and leadership. This can be at a pharmacy, regional, state, or national level or within academia focused on community pharmacy practice advancement. This is typically a non-patient care elective.
5. Hospital	Consider community hospitals with opportunities in transitions of care, medication reconciliation, meds to beds, etc. that link hospital practice with outpatient practice.
6. Acute Care	Consider all acute care options available based on student interest.

7. Elective 2 8. Elective 3	Consider electives in areas of interest. Refer to rotations guide for further suggestions. These electives can be patient care-focused or non-patient care electives. Patient care-focused rotations can be from any of the four core categories (community, hospital, acute care, ambulatory care), or from the patient care elective category (i.e., home infusion, long-term care, medication safety, behavioral health). Consider direct patient care-focused electives that incorporate outpatient/ambulatory practice.
Special note about elective APPEs:	Of the three total electives permitted, students may schedule a maximum of TWO non-patient care electives. The CLIP leadership elective is generally one of these two rotations.

*For the CLIP ARCO, selecting a second ambulatory care APPE is required. For students required to complete two acute care APPEs for a separate ARCO, an elective rotation slot can be utilized.

Project

Students will complete a research project as a required element of the CLIP ARCO. The project will begin with the Community Leadership and Innovation in Practice (CLIP) (PHARM 5819) course taken over the summer after P2 year. Project implementation and completion will be facilitated through the required Special Topics elective(s) offered in the Fall and Spring semesters of the P3 year. Students will be required to present their project in the form of a poster presentation at a state and/or national pharmacy association meeting.

Student Application Process

The deadline for applications is typically in January or February during the P2 year. The application process requires:

- A letter of intent detailing the anticipated value of the CLIP ARCO to their desired career.
- A resumé or curriculum vitae.
- An interview with at least one member of the CLIP ARCO oversight group.

Complete applications will be screened by the CLIP ARCO oversight group. Students will be notified regarding the status of their application as soon as possible.

Oversight Group

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