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Title: Student vs. Preceptor Assessment of Competency During Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences

Abstract

Introduction: The ACPE has created standards to evaluate pharmacy schools known as CAPE educational outcomes. CAPE educational outcomes are a tool used to help pharmacy schools evaluate curriculum and adapt to the ever-changing field of pharmacy. Pharmacy students participate in experiential education during their final year of the professional program where CAPE educational outcomes are used to evaluate the student throughout the year through an evaluation submitted by the student and preceptor of each experiential rotation. The purpose of this study was to evaluate and compare the perceptions of the preceptor and student and make recommendations to improve pharmacy school curriculum moving forward.

Methods: The evaluations submitted by both the student and preceptor at the end of each rotation include responses to six different areas of CAPE educational outcomes: foundational knowledge, patient centered care, problem solving, communication, self awareness, and professionalism. Responses to each area could include advanced, intermediate, or basic. Responses were gathered and compared between each area of the evaluation.

Results: Evaluations submitted by both the students and preceptors from the previous three academic years (2015-2019) were collected. Overall, students and preceptors tended to agree that the majority of students were at an advanced level for each CAPE educational outcome with a few outliers.

Discussion: The ACPE created the CAPE educational outcomes to help guide pharmacy schools in the development of their curriculum. Each of the aforementioned attributes are considered essential for pharmacy school graduates. Areas for improvement in the curriculum can be identified when evaluating this data. Based on previous educational models, recommendations are made to improve student outcomes moving forward.

Conclusion: CAPE educational outcomes are a useful tool to evaluate pharmacy students during their final year of the professional program. Comparing student and preceptor responses allows for evaluation of current curriculum and areas that need improvement in the students didactic learning. Pharmacy schools can use CAPE educational outcomes to adapt to the continuously changing field of pharmacy, and help students prepare for their career as pharmacists.