

CHAPTER – 2 Community Pharmacy

Topic: Professional responsibilities of the community pharmacists.

2.1

INTRODUCTION

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION listed the following responsibilities as the professional responsibility of the community pharmacy. They are four methods

1. Central pharmacist responsibilities:
2. Direct patient care area responsibilities
3. General responsibilities
4. Patient care area responsibilities

2.2

Central pharmacist responsibilities

- ❖ To ensure that established policies and procedures are followed.
- ❖ Checks for the accuracy of doses prepared:
 1. Intravenous admixtures
 2. Unit dose
- ❖ Provides for proper drug control.
- ❖ Safely supplied and labeled Supervising the preparation of any medicines
- ❖ Keeping a register of controlled drugs for legal and stock.
- ❖ Ensures that drugs are stored and dispensed properly e.g. Investigational drugs Ensures that all state and federal drug laws are followed.

2.3

Patient care area responsibilities

- The pharmacist seek to collect and integrate information about the patients drug history.
- Should clarify patients understanding of the intended regimen and method of administration.
- Should advise the patient of drug related precaution.
- Evaluate the therapeutic response.
- Dispensing prescription medicines to the public.
- Ensuring that different treatments are compatible.
- Monitoring blood pressure and cholesterol levels.
- Measuring and fitting compression hosiery.
- Counseling and advising the public on the treatment of minor ailments.

2.4**Direct patient care area responsibilities**

- Performs direct nursing tasks including taking their vital signs.
- Assists in drug-product and entity selection.
- Monitors patients total drug therapy, Side effects, Toxicities, Allergic drug reactions, Drug interaction and appropriate therapeutic out comes.
- Counsels patients on discharge medications.
- Advising patients of any adverse side-effects of medicines.
- Offering a diabetes screening service.
- Participates in cardiopulmonary emergencies

2.5**General responsibilities**

General responsibilities of community pharmacy are:

1. Processing of the prescription
2. Dispensing
3. Health promotions
4. Drug information services
5. Patient counseling
6. Arranging the delivery of prescription medicines to patients.
7. Managing, supervising and training pharmacy support staff.
8. Budgeting and financial management.
9. Keeping up to date with current pharmacy practice, new drugs and their uses.