

UCHENNA GBUGU
The University of Texas at El Paso
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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at El Paso

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Interdisciplinary Health Studies Candidate; 2024

The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston TX

Degree: Master's in public health (MPH), Community Health; 2015

Texas Southern University, Houston TX

Degree: Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D); 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Texas at El Paso

August 2020 to July 2022

Adjunct Clinical Faculty, *College of Pharmacy*

Subjects:

Contemporary Pharmacy Practice Careers

- Managed care pharmacy

Managed Care 101

- Introducing students to the concept of managed care.
- Developed and delivered lectures covering various topics – Managed care, Healthcare delivery systems around the globe, healthcare reimbursement and financing, Medicare Part D, Medicaid and commercial insurance.

Advanced Pharmacy Management

- Pharmacy Management/Leadership
- Business Plan Development
- Strategic Planning (Pharmacy Business and Staff Planning)
- Pharmacy / Clinical Operations: Workflow, Practice activities, Medication Safety and Technology, Purchasing and Managing Inventory, Justifying and Planning Patient Care services.
- Developing and Evaluating Clinical Pharmacy Services, Quality Improvement, Achieving and Measuring Patient Satisfaction

Integrated Skills Lab I & II

- Patient care skills assessment – Interview, documentation, critical thinking.
- Creating clinical algorithms

Supportive care in Oncology

Sterile Compounding skills Laboratory

Health Services Administration

Preceptor - Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE)

Internal Medicine

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Randomized Clinical Trial - RADx-UP project

Summary – Participated in community outreach and engaged in quantitative data collection (survey) for the RADx-UP randomized clinical trial.

- Trained a team of six certified community health workers(CHWs) on the correct use of the COVID-19 rapid self-tests who can then demonstrate to community members how to self-administer rapid tests. Training included how to guide community members through the step-by-step bilingual instructions contained within a flier and a bilingual video.
- Deployed and accompanied trained CHWs to underserved and rural areas within El Paso, conducted outreach, and engaged with community members at tabling events.
- Recruit participants for the study
- Perform data cleanup and analysis

HPV Vaccination project

(Summary) – Research team member in a study aimed at identifying trustworthy messengers of HPV vaccine information.

- Assist with setting up tabling events at community venues to recruit parents

Graduate Research Associate/PhD Assistance – COVID-19 Multimodal Education Program

Summary – Assist faculty and other designated developers in developing the narrative to disseminate the process for the design of the education and informational materials directly related to the project.

- Review the process for data collection pertinent to the project
- Conduct literature reviews on evidence-based strategies for vulnerable populations
- In-depth study and review of survey and focus group data
- Scrub and clean up qualitative and quantitative data variables
- Run statistical analysis on SPSS and interpret data

HIV Health Disparities Research

- Intervention to achieve and sustain viral suppression among a highly underserved population of Spanish-speaking people who inject drugs living with HIV (PWIDLH) on the Texas-Mexico border.

Sickle Cell Disease Caregiver project – Qualitative Research

- Understand the lived experience and psychological wellbeing of family caregivers of children with sickle cell disease (SCD) and identify the individual and structural level factors that promote positive adaptation in caring for their loved ones.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist (BCACP)

ASHP Research Skills Certificate

American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Immunization Certified

CPR Certified – American Heart Association

United Healthcare Emerging Leader Program

Medication Therapy Management (MTM)

United Healthcare Women in Leadership Committee member

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United Healthcare: 11/2013 – 02/2020

Clinical Pharmacist in Charge/Manager, Texas Medicaid Health Plan | 11/2016 – 02/2020

Summary - Led clinical projects for the health plan and served as SME on medication therapy management, clinical program implementation, formulary inquiries and member/provider engagement.

- Created quality and process improvement policies that led to improved efficiency of pharmacy team.
- Collaborated seamlessly with multidisciplinary team, making significant clinical recommendations that positively impacted members lives and in return decreased medical spend.
- Identified and implemented multiple clinical programs leading to significant cost savings for the health plan.
- Conducted pharmacoeconomic analysis to determine formulary inclusion/exclusion of medications.
- Performed several outreaches to health plan members, using motivational interviewing to counsel them on medication adherence, lifestyle behavioral changes etc to help improve their quality of life.
- Served as a drug information expert providing verbal and written, evidence-based, concise explanations to queries from medical directors and other health professionals.
- Performed various data analytics to determine prescription trend and inform medication adherence programs.
- Collaborated with quality team on projects aimed at improving Star ratings, HEDIS, CAHPS, and quality metrics.

Senior Specialty Products Pharmacist | 11/2013 – 10/2016

Summary – Clinical and operational management of specialty medications including site of service evaluations, policy development and client and patient consultations.

- Implement drug policy revisions and process enhancements across UHG lines of business to improve processes.
- Revised internal standard operating procedures and forms to support legal and regulatory requirements and process improvement.
- Designed and maintained technician workflow patterns to allow efficient review of medical drug requests for UHC E&I members.
- Developed and implemented clinical programs such as Site of service steerage and preferred product programs.
- Hired and trained new hires to the team. Serving as a mentor and resource to help them get up to speed.
- Accurately reviewed cases while adhering to state regulated turn around times (TATs) and clinical policy.

- Reviewed cases for complex disease states like HIV, Multiple sclerosis, Oncology, Immunodeficiency, genetic disorders, Hepatitis C, and Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Clinical Staff Pharmacist | Healix Infusion Therapy, Sugarland TX | 3/2011 – 9/2013

Summary - Supervised the compounding of sterile pharmaceuticals for individual and bulk distribution to ensure adherence to USP 797 and 800. Also served as the medication expert to ensure prescriptions are clinically appropriate.

- Handled injectable medications including antibiotics, chemotherapy and specialty medications.
- In recognition of my diligence and attention to detail, selected by senior management to lead the Intravenous Immunoglobulin program.
- Developed antimicrobial stewardship program to ensure proper prescribing & monitoring of antibiotic therapy.

Clinical Staff Pharmacist | Baptist hospitals of SE TX, Beaumont TX | 8/2007 - 2/2011

Summary - Served as drug information expert responsible for monitoring drug therapy in various areas including parenteral nutrition, pharmacokinetic monitoring, renal dosing and IV to oral medication conversion.

- Participated in P&T preparation and presentation by doing research, creating power points and presenting findings in meetings.
- Conducted research on the causes of internal medication input errors and implemented processes to help mitigate these errors leading to a significant reduction in pharmacist medication errors.
- Rounding with multidisciplinary healthcare team to provide input on patient medication therapy.
- Providing transition of care services to patients, face to face counselling on proper medication use.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Health System Pharmacist, 2010 – Present

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacists, 2020 – Present

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- COVID vaccine administration 2020 to present
- WesternU MTM pharmacist preceptor 2019 & 2018
- El Paso Food bank and Child crisis center – 2019
- Career day – IDEA school of public health – 2019
- Texas Southern University COPHS MTM participation 2018
- Hurricane Harvey volunteer at Reliant Stadium 2017
- AABC-Mosaic Health Fair at Briargate Elementary School - April 23, 2016
- The Houston health department national public health week health fair – April 9 2016
- Health fair with TSU-College of Pharmacy – 2015

- Health fair sponsored by Asian American Baptist Church – April 18, 2015 & April 26, 2014