Integration of a Pharmacist in a Pediatric Medical Home for Children with Medical Complexity

Alannah K. Yoder
*Children's Mercy Hospital*, akyoder@cmh.edu

Richard K. Ogden Jr.
*Children's Mercy Hospital*, rkogden@cmh.edu

Ingrid A. Larson
*Children's Mercy Hospital*, ialarson@cmh.edu

Emily J. Goodwin
*Children's Mercy Hospital*, ejgoodwin@cmh.edu

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**Integration of a Pharmacist in a Pediatric Medical Home for Children with Medical Complexity**

Alannah Yoder, PharmD; Ricky Ogden, Jr., PharmD, MBA; Ingrid Larson, DNP, MBA, CPNP, NEA-BC; Emily Goodwin, MD

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**Children’s Mercy Kansas City, Kansas City, MO**

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### What is the Beacon Program?

The Beacon Program at Children’s Mercy Kansas City is a pediatric medical home for hundreds of children with medical complexity (CMC) and their siblings.

Families are cared for by a comprehensive medical team, including a clinical pharmacist.

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### Why are Drug-Related Problems a Concern?

CMC require unique care, specialized attention, and benefit from a dedicated team to meet the needs of patients and caregivers.

Drug-therapy related problems in complex, chronic conditions influence financial, institutional, and patient outcomes.

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### Why a Pharmacist?

- **Value-added medication services**
- Collaboration and delivery of comprehensive medication management
- **Optimize complex therapeutic regimens and patient outcomes** through evidence-based practices, medication adherence, coordination, and safety processes

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### How is the Pharmacist’s Care Provided?

**Pharmacist is available for all appointments and meets with patients/caregivers at beginning of clinic encounters. Multiple services provided include:**

1. **Comprehensive medication reconciliation** through history provided by caregiver, outpatient pharmacy review, and chart review of specialty teams
2. **Adverse drug assessment**
3. **Systemic drug-utilization review of each medication**
   - Drug-disease contraindication
   - Drug-drug interaction
   - Drug-patient precaution
   - Dosing
   - Duration of therapy
   - Over- / underutilization
   - Dosage form modification
   - Adherence concerns
   - Monitoring warranted
4. **Patient education and development of personal, family-friendly medication lists**
5. **Coordination of care**
   - Inpatient admissions
   - Specialty services
   - Home healthcare
   - Prior authorization needs
   - Outpatient prescriptions and pharmacies
6. **Medication therapy services collaborative practice**

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### Significance

The integration of a pharmacist in a pediatric medical home for CMC allows for:

- Innovation
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Comprehensive medication management

Iincorporation of family education and tangible medication plans promotes:

- Safe and consistent medication practices

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