

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

Purpose

The Area of Concentration in Community Leadership, Innovation, and 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 ARCO-CLIP will be well prepared to enter leadership and patient care roles in community practice and will be highly competitive for residencies and other advanced practice training opportunities.

Description

The role of the pharmacist is rapidly changing. Pharmacists are able to 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 in order to maintain the financial viability of its business model. One of these new revenue sources is patient care services. Students completing the ARCO-CLIP will be well prepared to enter leadership and patient care roles in community practice and will be highly competitive for residencies and other advanced practice training opportunities. They will be better equipped to:

- Pursue residencies in Community Practice, Family Medicine and Geriatrics
- Manage clinical services
- Obtain leadership positions
- Develop community pharmacy practice sites
- Implement innovative patient care services
- Explore careers precepting students and in academia

The ARCO-CLIP offers an advanced exposure to community pharmacy practice providing students with unique coursework, rotations, a scholarly project, and individualized mentorship. By the completion of the requirements for the ARCO-CLIP, 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 practice management skills. Demonstrate project management skills.
- CLIP 4: Provide medication and practice-related information, education, and/or training.
- CLIP 5: Utilize medical informatics.
- CLIP 6: Demonstrate knowledge and skills for successful community practice interface with the managed care environment.

Academic Requirements

The ARCO-CLIP consists of six (6) credits of approved elective classroom-based courses, four Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs), and an approved project conducted under the guidance of an advisor. A minimum of 21 credits of coursework and rotations in the ARCO-CLIP are required. It does not require the student to take additional credits, but rather is a way for students to concentrate their classroom and experiential learning experiences in a focused way to meet the intent of the area of concentration.

Coursework

Students enrolled in the ARCO-CLIP will meet the required elective credits (6) in order to complete the PharmD curriculum through the ARCO-CLIP required coursework. Students are not required to complete additional electives to meet the PharmD

curriculum requirements or ARCO-CLIP requirements. However, students may choose to complete additional elective credits that would contribute to the student’s mastery of the ARCO-CLIP’s learning objectives.

Required ARCO-CLIP Professional Electives:

- PHARM 5819 Community Leadership, Innovation, & Practice (3 credits)
- PHARM 5812 Implementing Healthcare Innovations (1.5 credits)
- PHARM 5820 Pharmacy Innovation 1 (1 credit)
- *PHARM 5821 Pharmacy Innovation 2 (1 credit)

*Additional courses inside or outside the School of Pharmacy may also be accepted on a case-by-case basis with prior approval of the oversight group, the course instructor, and the School of Pharmacy Curriculum Committee.

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 management APPE as an elective. The ARCO-CLIP students will complete their APPEs in such a way that they will meet the rotation experiences as required by the Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree.

APPE Requirements	Focused CLIP APPE
1. Community	Advanced community practice rotation at a pharmacy with established patient care services including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immunizations • Medication Therapy Management • Community Health and Wellness Programs
2. Ambulatory Care	First ambulatory care rotation in practice settings that offer direct patient care with populations common to community practice such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Medicine • Geriatrics • Underserved
3. Ambulatory Care or Acute Care	Second ambulatory care rotation in practice settings that offer direct patient care with populations common to community practice
4. Elective	Community pharmacy management elective rotation that provides experiences in pharmacy leadership and managing operations
5. Hospital	Consider community hospitals with unit-based care models and/or transitions of care that link hospital practice with community practice
6. Acute Care	Consider acute care settings with direct patient engagement such as General Internal Medicine/Inpatient Family Medicine, Inpatient Geriatrics, etc.
7. Elective	Consider an elective in a setting that offers direct patient care, advanced community practice services, implementation/management of pharmacy innovations, or leadership experiences
<i>Rotation descriptions in bold are required for completion of the ARCO-CLIP. Other rotation descriptions are suggestive only to help contribute to the mastery of the ARCO-CLIP's learning objectives.</i>	

Project

Students will complete a research project within the Community Leadership Innovation & Practice (CLIP) (PHARM 5819) course taken over the summer after P2 year. This is a required element of the ARCO-CLIP. The course consists of weekly 2-hour meetings and an online portion. Arrangements will be made for those not staying in the Pittsburgh area for the summer. 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 January 15 during the 2nd professional year. All application materials must be submitted to Marcia Borrelli by the deadline. The application process requires:

- A letter of intent detailing the anticipated value of the ARCO-CLIP to their desired career.
- A professional portfolio, including a résumé or curriculum vitae.
- An interview with at least one member of the ARCO-CLIP oversight group and a student currently enrolled in the area of concentration.

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

ARCO-CLIP Oversight Group

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