



APPEL

An Chleamhnacht um Fhoighlaim ó
Thaithí Chleachtadh na Cógaisíochta

Affiliation for Pharmacy
Practice Experiential Learning

Sample CPD Cycle: Hospital Practice



APPEL has developed sample CPD cycles, based on some feedback that pharmacists shared regarding their experiences of supervising students. These cycles are intended to illustrate how pharmacists can incorporate their own experiences of supervising students into their own professional learning journeys.

Is comhcheangal é APPEL idir Scoileanna Cógaisíochta UCC, RCSI agus TCD
APPEL is an affiliation between the schools of Pharmacy of UCC, RCSI and TCD



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Self-Appraisal:

An area of your practice you have identified to develop. What it is you would like to learn/develop. How you identified this through your own practice.

We have decided to take a second-year pharmacy student for two weeks in the spring. As we are a small hospital department, I want to ensure that we will be able to give the right learning opportunities to the student. I want to make sure I know enough about the new course the student is doing, and understand how this student's need may be different to those of the intern students we are used to having.



Develop Personal Plan:

What you need to improve your knowledge/competence in this area. What steps you will take. What resources or help you will need. How much time it will take etc.

I will go to the APPEL information event to learn about best practice when supervising a second-year student. As we have lots of experience in our pharmacy department with previous students, I will look over the plans we had around their learning and see if we can get some ideas for our second-year student.

Action:

What action you actually took to address the area you identified for development. Anything you did additionally / differently to what you had planned?

I attended the APPEL information event and learned about the new integrated pharmacy course, and got my supervisors handbook. I really enjoyed the discussion with other pharmacists who were taking students, as they asked lots of questions I hadn't thought of.

At the information event, some pharmacists recommended planning activities for the first couple of days so when I went back to work, I sketched out a quick plan so that I felt ready for the student to arrive.

When the student came, she brought a workbook with specific learning activities. She was anxious about the learning activity that centred on the supply of a non-prescription medicine, as she had heard from her friends that she wouldn't be able to do this activity in a hospital. I rang APPEL and spoke with a Practice Educator who was able to provide some guidance about how this could be achieved in a hospital setting. The APPEL Practice Educator was very helpful, and it's great to know this resource is there.



Another of the student's activities involved linking their placement activities to competencies in the Core Competency Framework (CCF). This really got me thinking about how everyday tasks I complete link to the CCF.

Document Your Learning:

Write about: What you have learned. Any new knowledge or skills you have attained. Any additional or future actions that arose through the process.

I learned about the new pharmacy course at the APPEL training event. I also got the chance to learn from other pharmacists about how they were going to approach the supervision of a student, and I found this really insightful.

I understand that the Practice Educators are a great source of support to placements and I will definitely contact them again if needed.

Evaluate Impact on Practice:

What have you discovered or learned about yourself or your practice through the process. The impact of your actions on your current or future practice. Anything you have learned about yourself in relation to CPD.

We very much enjoyed, as a team, having our student in the pharmacy for two weeks. We all agreed it was good to have the opportunity to look at how we do things through the student's eyes. Our student had no previous experience in a pharmacy before and found the hospital environment a little intimidating at first. In the future I will try to bring our second-year students around the hospital with me as much as possible, to help their confidence in this setting.

I found the experience of supervising very enjoyable, as our student said she enjoyed her placement very much and that it had opened her eyes to the "real work" of a hospital pharmacist. I think it would be very rewarding to supervise students in second, fourth or fifth year, and see them develop their skills while still studying at college. It would also be a great way for us to keep up with new changes and developments, as the student will be learning these things at college, and as a small department, it can be difficult to find dedicated time to organise clinical updates for ourselves. This would help us with our on-going CPD. It is also a great way to show students the advantages of practising in hospitals, especially smaller ones like ours!



I have a better understanding of the CCF and how this links to everyday tasks and this will help me with other CPD cycles I'm completing.

What is APPEL?

APPEL (Affiliation for Pharmacy Practice Experiential Learning) is a unique collaboration between University College Cork (UCC), the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) and Trinity College Dublin (TCD). It was established to manage, centralise and streamline the experiential learning placements of the three Schools of Pharmacy in Ireland. APPEL offers placement providers a single point of contact and a source of expertise in relation to pharmacy placements.

What is the New Programme?

A new model of pharmacy education was introduced in September 2015. Pharmacy graduates now undertake a fully integrated programme which includes placements in a breadth of practice settings throughout the five years of their education.

This early practical and dispersed experience helps students to contextualise the theory they learn in their School of Pharmacy. Experiential learning throughout the integrated pharmacy programme provides students with the skills necessary to meet the demands of the future healthcare environment. Practice placements in community and hospital pharmacy will support students to develop the clinical skills and behaviours required to provide optimal patient care in accordance with evolving pharmacy practice.

Placement	Duration	Setting
2 nd Year	2 weeks (or equivalent)	Patient Facing setting
4 th Year	4 month placement	Patient Facing and Non-Patient Facing setting
5 th Year	8 month placement	Patient Facing setting

What Opportunities does the New Programme provide to Pharmacists?

Training a student offers excellent CPD opportunities, including learning through teaching, peer-networking at APPEL events, learning from students, and developing Core Competencies including leadership skills and human resources management skills.

Are you interested in taking on a student?

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