

## In the Spotlight



**Name/Credentials:** Daniel A. Lewis, Pharm.D.  
**Title:** Pharmacy Specialist Internal Medicine/ Therapeutic Drug Monitoring  
 Program Director, PGY2 Residency Internal Medicine  
**Organization:** UK HealthCare / University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy  
**Member Since:** 1998

### Biography

Dr. Lewis received his Bachelor's and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from Duquesne University in 1998 and 1999 and completed a PGY1 residency at the University Hospital of Cincinnati in 2000. After completion of his residency, Dan accepted a position at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center where he currently serves as a pharmacy specialist for the adult internal medicine services as well as the co-manager of the Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Anticoagulation Services. His responsibilities within this position are to provide comprehensive pharmaceutical care to patients through integrated drug distribution, clinical rounding services, research and teaching. He also helps oversee and coordinate the inpatient anticoagulation services. In addition, Dan is the Program Director for the PGY2 residency program for Internal Medicine and is an active preceptor in the residency program at UK. He also serves as an Assistant Adjunct Professor at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy and as module leader and lecturer in the third year advanced pharmacotherapy course.

### Current Projects/Research Interests

Education is a major component and source of enjoyment which permeates all aspects of Dr. Lewis' career. This is most often seen through interaction with and training of pharmacy residents and students on rotation or with other health care professionals. The importance to train the next generation of pharmacy practitioners and instill the awareness of contribution not only to direct patient care, but also ongoing education, research and publication is a constant source of reward. Dan is currently involved in committees and projects associated with inpatient anticoagulation and hyperglycemia management. His research interests include appropriateness of inpatient anticoagulation and diagnosis and management of heparin induced thrombocytopenia.

## **My Story**

Much of my early professional development and decision to do a residency was in large part due to influences from family. My father, Dale Lewis, RPh was a Director of Pharmacy for 30 years in Cleveland, OH. He was an active member of ASHP and very involved in both the Cleveland and Ohio Societies of Health System Pharmacy. His guidance led to my understanding the important role that pharmacists can play in the care of hospitalized patients and the value that residency training can provide in order to reach this goal. I had the good fortune to both train and work with a number of pharmacy leaders throughout my career. As a resident in Cincinnati, I was able to develop my practice skills under the leadership of Marianne F. Ivey, Pharm.D., M.P.H., FASHP and a number of devoted pharmacy preceptors and staff. Once at the University of Kentucky, I had the opportunity to work with our former director, John Armitstead RPh, MS, FASHP. His support and confidence early in my professional career has allowed me to grow into the practitioner that I am today. In my ten years at UK, under his leadership and work from devoted staff and colleagues within UK, I have been able to be a part of the overall expansion of our clinical services and residency program. This included the initiation of our PGY2 Internal Medicine program for which I am the program director. The success was much in part to a focus in providing “Best Practices” in pharmacy for the patients that we serve.

## **Advice**

I have been successful by remaining passionate in the daily provision of appropriate, cost effective care for our patients. This is often through provision of direct patient care, but also in the development of policies and protocols that allow for safe and effective utilization of medications. I am fortunate to work with devoted colleagues within both the pharmacy and medical staff. Interdisciplinary support has been the key to development and integration of services that ensure these safe and effective practices. This is evident in our institutions anticoagulation guidelines which incorporate the pharmacist on the front line to evaluate, monitor, and recommend appropriate therapies. Involvement at the front end and communication with our physician and nursing colleagues has led to effective integration and success of these services. The importance of early and ongoing education of staff cannot be stressed enough in this process.

## **The Value of ASHP Membership**

ASHP has had a profound impact on my professional life. The opportunities it afforded me back as a student in the residency showcase and matching process have allowed my career to flourish. Ongoing membership and participation has allowed for development of professional relationships with thought leaders in my areas of interest as well as ongoing professional advice and support. Attendance at meetings provides time to catch up with colleagues and take a firsthand look at what other institutions are doing and what might be effective models to bring back to our institution. I have also been fortunate to be active and involved as a network

facilitator in the ASHP Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientist's which has further strengthened my ability to interact with other professionals in the area of anticoagulation.

**Contact Information**

For more information on (NAME), visit the [Clinical Specialists and Scientists' Online Directory](#).