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Medication Safety/Drug Utilization Pharmacist  
Job Description

Job Summary

The Medication Safety/Drug Utilization Pharmacist is responsible for monitoring the medication use process and drug usage throughout the health-system. The pharmacist's duties will be divided between medication safety improvement, drug policy development/revision, and pharmacoeconomic drug utilization evaluation.

Job Duties

Medication Safety

- 1) Identify current best practices for medication safety in the literature (including recommendations from ISMP, JCAHO, USP, and other organizations), evaluate HH's compliance with these best practices, and coordinate the implementation of these practices at HH.
- 2) Evaluate compliance with and facilitate the implementation of JCAHO National Patient Safety Goals and other medication safety related requirements.
- 3) Participate in multi-disciplinary committees relating to medication safety, including but not limited to: Reducing Medication Variance, Patient Safety Committee, Medication Safety Program Committee, Women's and Children's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Subcommittee, and Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee
- 4) Facilitate departmental adverse drug event, adverse drug reaction, and medication error reporting and detection. Participate in the analysis of the ADE/ADR data and identify methods to reduce the frequency of preventable ADEs and medication errors. Present reports to appropriate committees.
- 5) Provide a safety evaluation of drugs or drug classes being considered for the formulary, including common and rare adverse effects, special handling, preparation or administration techniques, look-alike/sound-alike names or other characteristics that could result in a medication error or preventable ADE.
- 6) Participate in the review and development of departmental and interdisciplinary policies and procedures relating to medication safety. Communicate policy and procedure changes to hospital staff.
- 7) Provide education to pharmacy staff, nurses, physicians, and all other employees involved in the medication use process regarding safe medication practices.
- 8) Coordinate the initiation, completion, evaluation, documentation, and publication of medication safety projects.

Drug Utilization

- 1) Coordinate pharmacoeconomic analysis of high cost/high utilization drugs/drug classes.
- 2) Evaluate drug utilization data and identify new opportunities for therapeutic substitution programs and other cost saving programs.
- 3) Evaluate the cost impact of new products and monitor market share data for existing drug classes.
- 4) Provide support to the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, including the implementation of online formulary management software