**APPE Rotation Types**

**Ambulatory Care** advanced practice experiences help students develop and refine their ability to provide pharmaceutical care to ambulatory patients in primary care settings such as clinics. Pharmacists in these settings work as part of a patient care team (i.e., other health care professionals work in the clinic or other setting) and usually have access to a comprehensive patient chart. Routine dispensing of medications may or may not be part of the usual activities (but usually is not).

**Community Practice** advanced practice experiences help students gain the skills and confidence needed to function independently in community settings. Emphasis is placed on enhancing students’ ability to manage the drug dispensing process and supervise supportive personnel; although students are expected to interpret prescriptions and solve drug therapy problems, they usually will not be involved in the routine dispensing of medications. Emphasis is also placed on developing and refining students’ ability to provide counseling and education to patients. Sites may offer specialized services such as compounding or disease state management.

**Drug Information** advanced practice experiences help students develop and refine their ability to receive drug information queries, research the most appropriate sources of information, and formulate and communicate a response. These clerkships usually are conducted in hospital-based drug information centers, or the medical information departments of pharmaceutical companies.

**General Medicine** advanced practice experiences help students develop and refine their ability to manage the drug therapy of patients in acute-care settings such as hospitals. In contrast to the Inpatient Clinical and Ambulatory Care experiences which emphasize the role of the clinical pharmacist specialist, the General Medicine clerkship provide students a thorough understanding of the role of a clinical generalist pharmacist in direct patient care. The student will learn strategies to provide and coordinate pharmacy services within and across the health system as they relate to acute care, ambulatory care and home care, with the main focus being on the acute care setting.

**Inpatient Clinical** advanced practice experiences help students develop and refine their ability to manage the drug therapy of patients in acute-care settings such as hospitals. These clerkships focus on direct patient-care activities (such as participating in rounds and reviewing patient charts) in specific areas or patient populations. Preparing and dispensing medications is not part of the usual activities.

- Inpatient A – general patient care experiences
- Inpatient B – experiences focused on a particular area of pharmacotherapy or that provide very short-term patient monitoring opportunities (e.g., antimicrobial stewardship, emergency medicine, infectious diseases, nutrition support, pain management). Due to their narrow and limited focus, Inpatient B rotations may only be taken as electives.

**Health System/Hospital** advanced practice experiences help students gain the skills and confidence needed to function independently in institutional (especially hospital) settings. Emphasis is placed on enhancing students’ ability to manage the drug dispensing process and supervise supportive personnel; although students are expected to interpret prescription orders and solve drug therapy problems, they usually will not be involved in the routine dispensing of medications. Students will be exposed to the managerial aspects of institutional practice, including departmental administration, hospital committees, and JCAHO (or other) accreditation.
Nontraditional advanced practice experiences introduce students to the wide array of opportunities that exist for pharmacists in settings other than community, ambulatory care, and inpatient pharmacy. These clerkships are hosted by pharmacists who work in home care, long term care, managed care, the pharmaceutical industry, pharmacy associations, and other nontraditional or emerging settings. Some of these clerkships focus on roles for pharmacists that do not involve direct patient care (such as hospital pharmacy management). The emphasis in nontraditional practice clerkships is on acquainting students with unfamiliar practice areas, rather than on developing or refining specific core practice skills.