

R&E Pharm Tech and Current Events Seminar 4/14

Start: 6:15

Rx Tech Roles and Overview

- Fill Prescriptions
 - Hands them off to pharmacist and the pharmacists verify it
 - Type out prescriptions
- Handles Insurance
 - Communicates with insurance companies
 - Verify with patients if their medication is covered
- Handles Stock
- Talk to patients

How to Get Your License

- Path 1
 - Take a course (certified course)/Work 500 hr. As a pharmacy clerk
 - Take and Pass the PTCE
 - Apply for a license
 - Work and renew your license every 2 years
- Path 2
 - Work 240 hours at a pharmacy (not licensed) (in a specific program provided by the workplace)
 - Get license in the state of CA
 - Renew the license every 2 years

PTCE

- Can take online and have it proctored (turn on camera) or take it in person at a specific location chosen by the PTCB
- 90 multiple choice
 - 10 are unscored (random)
- 2 hours to complete the exam
 - 5 minute tutorial to pick the answer
 - 5 minutes for a post survey
- Passing Score = 1400
 - Scores usually between 1000-1600
 - New! (Since last year 2020) - you need to complete a PTCB approved course OR have 240 hours completed as a pharmacy technician
- Exam Topic Breakdown

- Medication - 40%
- Federal Requirements - 12.5%
 - Control schedules, DEA, etc.
- Order + Entry Processing - 21.25%
 - Compounding procedures, math, lot numbers, NDC
 - Drug and patient information
- Patient Safety + Quality and Insurance - 26.25%
- All of these are usually covered in the pharm tech course as well as pharm tech books
- How to apply for the exam
 - Make an account at <http://www.ptcb.org>
 - Order the exam (costs \$129)
 - Once approved an email confirmation will be sent with the exam date and location
- On exam day
 - Arrive and check in 30 minutes early
 - Bring an approved form of ID
 - Preliminary results show right after the exam
 - Official results show up 2-3 weeks afterwards
- Recommended Resources
 - RxTech Exam
 - Costs \$200-250
 - PTCB recognized
 - <https://rxtechexam.com/home/>
 - Online Practice Exams and Quizzes
 - PTCB has a practice exam but it costs money
 - But gives you a better example of what the actual exam will be like
 - Mosby's Review for Pharmacy Tech certification
 - 3rd edition works fine!
 - Other resources
 - <http://ptcbtestprep.com/ptcb-blog/>
 - <http://www.pharmacytechshq.com/resources-library/>

License

- State Board of Pharmacy
 - Application fee is \$195

- Written as a check and for the California State Board of Pharmacy
- Pharmacy Tech Application
 - Download from pharmacy.ca.gov
- SSN or Taxpayer Identification Number
- A passport style photo
 - Goes on page 1 of your application
 - ****Taken within 60 days of filling the application****
- Proof of education
 - High school transcript
- PTCB Certification
 - Download from PTCB website
- Self Query Report
 - Obtained from NPDB
 - Will be mailed out to you
 - ****Make sure it stays SEALED****
 - Fee required (~\$10)
- Fingerprint Live Scan
 - ****Taken within 60 days of filling the application****
 - Price varies (\$45-90)
- Application process will take about 45 days to be processed

License Renewal

- Done every 2 years
- Renewal Application opens 60 days before expiration
- Need to complete a minimum about 20 hours of Continuing Education
 - More details can be found on the PTCB website
- Renewal fee of \$200
- Can renew through online or mail

***Being certified and being licensed are two different things! After passing the exam = certified, sending in application to the State Board of Pharmacy = Licensed**

- Most jobs want you to be licensed

Tips

- Set a schedule for studying to give yourself enough time
- Take advantage of online study resources

- Make sure you have all your materials for your application (photo, live fingerprint scan, transcript, etc.)
- After you pass your exam but waiting for results for your license you can start applying for jobs!

Personal Experiences

- It's very eye opening to the burnout in retail pharmacy
- Helps out with possible questions that could be asked for Pharmacy school interviews
- Helps you decide if you really want to do pharmacy or not in the future

Current Events Seminar

- Topic: Pharmacists has the right to refuse to fill ivermectin to treat Covid
 - It has not been approved by the FDA as a treatment for Covid
 - Explain to the patient how it could not be as effective as prescribed but still be able to fill it
 - Some pharmacy schools will give out ethics exams, so read case studies and see how pharmacists react to it to help build how you would answer
 - Suggest different ways to prevent catching covid than filling the drug
 - Tell how to contact the doctor's office
- Topic: Pharmacists refusing to dispense birth control/plan B based off of personal beliefs
 - Conscience Clause
 - As a pharmacist your main goal should be the health of the patient, the reason could be due to health reasons rather than it being a contraceptive
 - It's a "personal" belief, it should not get in the way of prescribing and dispensing medication
 - Most likely will not happen in bigger companies due to bad reputation
 - Main goal is customer service, it looks bad on them if it's given a bad image
- Topic: Ethical challenges pharmacists face when managing noncompliant patients
 - How effective is medical consultation?
 - It's still important for the pharmacists to sign off on the consultation
 - It's very important, especially for antibiotics because the patient should know that they should finish the full perscription

- I think it's useful for a first time user, but for long-term users it shouldn't be needed and just be signed off
- Depends on pharmacist, some are into patient care vs other will say it and leave
 - Can help the patient in the long run for questions and such
 - Pharm. techs/ clerks will be deciding whether or not the patient will have a consultation
- Wish pharmacists would take more time with patients that have language barriers
- To what extent should pharmacists be involved in patient care
 - Patience, and have importance on patient care
 - Be knowledgeable about the medication and stay up to date
 - Stay updating with FDA regulation
- What are some other reasons for medication non-compliance
 - High cost
 - Social influence
 - Some patients think they don't need it anymore when they should be taking it for continued therapy
 - Find different ways the patient could take it
 - Different ways, dosage
 - Something that helps the patient
 - Find more ways to have different forms of medication

End: 6:54