

# LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

Subject: <b>SCOPE OF PRACTICE: PHARMACIST</b>	Original Issue Date: 12/1/17	Policy # <b>943</b>
	Supersedes: 12/1/17	Effective Date: 11/16/20
Policy Owner(s): Director of Pharmacy Services Executive Sponsor(s): Chief Medical Officer		
Departments Consulted: P&T Committee	Reviewed & approved by: Attending Staff Association Executive Committee Senior Executive Officer	Approved by: (Signature on File) Chief Medical Officer
		(Signature on File) Chief Executive Officer

## PURPOSE

The pharmacist provides pharmaceutical care, which is the direct, responsible provision of medication-related care for the purpose of achieving definite outcomes that improve a patient's quality of life.

## POLICY

The pharmacist's role as a care provider is to improve an individual patient's quality of life through the following successful medication-related outcomes:

- Cure of a patient's disease;
- Elimination or reduction of a patient's symptomatology;
- Arresting or slowing of a disease process; or,
- Prevention of a disease or symptomatology

### A. Role of the pharmacist

1. *Medication-related problem*: an event involving medication therapy that actually or potentially interferes with an optimum outcome for a specific patient.
  - a. Identifying potential and actual medication-related problems
  - b. Resolving actual medication-related problems
  - c. Preventing potential medication-relation problems
2. Categories of medication-related problems:
  - a. Untreated indications or conditions
  - b. Improper drug selection
  - c. Dose too low
  - d. Dose too high
  - e. Use of medication without indication
  - f. Failure to receive medication
  - g. Adverse drug event occurrence
  - h. Drug-drug, drug-food, drug-disease state interaction or conflict
3. Medication order review
  - a. A pharmacist reviews medication orders for appropriateness. The review includes:
    - a. Medication Selection Review

Subject: **SCOPE OF PRACTICE: PHARMACIST**Effective Date:  
11/16/20Policy #  
**943**

- i. Therapeutic appropriateness with respect to indication
      - ii. Therapeutic duplication in the patient's medication regimen
      - iii. Real or potential drug interactions
      - iv. Real of potential allergies or sensitivities
      - v. Contraindications for use; including but not limited to Black Box Warning Review
    - b. Medication Dose Review
      - i. Drug dosing with respect to Age and Indication
      - ii. Drug dosing with respect to Renal and Hepatic Function Dose Rounding when appropriate
      - iii. Serum-Drug-Level Dose Review
      - iv. Initial Bolus and Re-Bolus Dosing needs review
    - c. Medication Frequency Review
      - i. Start time of medication
      - ii. Frequency review
      - iii. Meal optimization
      - iv. Time of day optimization
    - d. Route
      - i. Drug route appropriateness
  - 4. The pharmacist participates in the monitoring of effects of medication to assure medication therapy is appropriate and minimizes the occurrence of adverse events. The pharmacist's process includes:
    - a. Ordering clinical and laboratory data to evaluate the efficacy of and anticipate or prevent adverse events related to medication therapy;
    - b. Initiating or adjusting the drug regimen of a patient;
    - c. Assessing the signs and symptoms relevant to patient's medication therapy.
  - 5. The pharmacist resolves all questions regarding medication orders with the prescriber before medications are approved for administration to the patient. The pharmacist documents these discussions.
  - 6. Medication use related patient care functions are performed by all department staff pharmacists working under medical staff-approved collaborative practice agreements. These are designated as Advanced Practice "core skill sets". Skillset evaluation of ability to perform patient assessment, initiate, adjust or discontinue drug therapy; order and interpret therapy-related tests as part of a medical staff approved collaborative practice protocol or guideline.
- B. Duties of the pharmacist**
- 1. Responsible for procuring, storing, compounding, repackaging, and dispensing of all medications used in the facility;
  - 2. Provision of drug information to care professionals within the hospital;
  - 3. Direct provision of medication-related care;
  - 4. Supervise the packaging of drugs and check the packaging procedures and products upon completion;
  - 5. Responsible for all activities of pharmacy technicians, interns, and clerks; and,
  - 6. Performs all functions which require professional judgment.

Subject: **SCOPE OF PRACTICE: PHARMACIST**

Effective Date:  
11/16/20

Policy #  
**943**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

Pharmacist

**REFERENCES**

California State Board of Pharmacy Rules and Regulations  
Conditions of Participation, 2015, sec 48225

**REVISION DATES**

November 16, 2020