Integration of a Pharmacist in a Pediatric Medical Home for Children with Medical Complexity
Alannah Yoder, PharmD; Ricky Ogden, Jr., PharmD, MBA; Ingrid Larson, DNP, MBA, CPNP, NEA-BC; Emily Goodwin, MD, FAAP

Children’s Mercy Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

What is the Beacon Program?
The Beacon Program at Children’s Mercy Kansas City is a pediatric medical home for hundreds of children with medical complexity (CMC) and their siblings. Families are cared for by a comprehensive medical team, including a clinical pharmacist.

Why are Drug-Related Problems a Concern?
CMC require unique care, specialized attention, and benefit from a dedicated team to meet the needs of patients and caregivers. Drug-therapy related problems in complex, chronic conditions influence financial, institutional, and patient outcomes.

How is the Pharmacist’s Care Provided?
1. Comprehensive medication reconciliation through history provided by caregiver, outpatient pharmacy review, and chart review
2. Adverse drug assessment
3. Systemic drug-utilization review of each medication
   - Drug-disease contraindication
   - Drug-drug interaction
   - Drug-patient precaution
   - Dosing
   - Duration of therapy
   - Over-/underutilization
   - Dosage form modification
   - Adherence concerns
   - Monitoring warranted
4. Patient education and development of personal, family-friendly medication lists
5. Coordination of care
   - Inpatient admissions
   - Specialty services
   - Home healthcare
   - Prior authorization needs
   - Outpatient prescriptions and pharmacies
6. Medication therapy services collaborative practice

Why a Pharmacist?
- Value-added medication services
- Collaboration and delivery of comprehensive medication management
- Optimize complex therapeutic regimens and patient outcomes through evidence-based practices, medication adherence, coordination, and safety processes

Significance
The integration of a pharmacist in a pediatric medical home for CMC allows for:
- Innovation
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Comprehensive medication management

Incorporation of family education and tangible medication plans promotes:
- Safe and consistent medication practices

In a pilot study consisting of 14 clinic days, 225 drug-related interventions were made; averaging to about 3 interventions per patient.

Contact Information:
Alannah Yoder
Pharmacist, Beacon Program
akyoder@cmh.edu