

Employing Pharmacy Students to Improve the Medication Use Process for Underserved Patients with a History of Mental Health or Substance Use Disorders

Ashley J. Maister, PharmD Candidate 2018, Toni A. Campanella, PharmD Candidate 2018, Roshni S. Patel, PharmD, BCPS

Jefferson College of Pharmacy, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia PA

Purpose

Project HOME is a non-profit organization in Philadelphia that provides housing, employment opportunities, medical care, and education for chronically homeless individuals with serious mental health conditions.

One nurse oversees the medication use process at three of Project HOME's residences; however, non-clinical staff are responsible for carrying out the medication use process.

The purpose of this project was to identify how the Jefferson College of Pharmacy's APhA-ASP chapter could assist Project HOME with their medication-related needs and improve the medication use process.



Methods

Needs Assessment Findings:

- Standardized approach to reviewing medical records and medication regimens
- Collaboration with healthcare team (including providers and community pharmacies)
- Streamlined contact with providers to assist with obtaining medication refills
- Education to Project HOME staff on improving the medication use process, including updating the medical record
- Education and counseling to residents on appropriate chronic conditions and medication use including:
 - Medication administration technique
 - Implementation of adherence strategies

Methods (continued)

Pharmacy Student Intervention:

Figure 1: Approach to Project Implementation

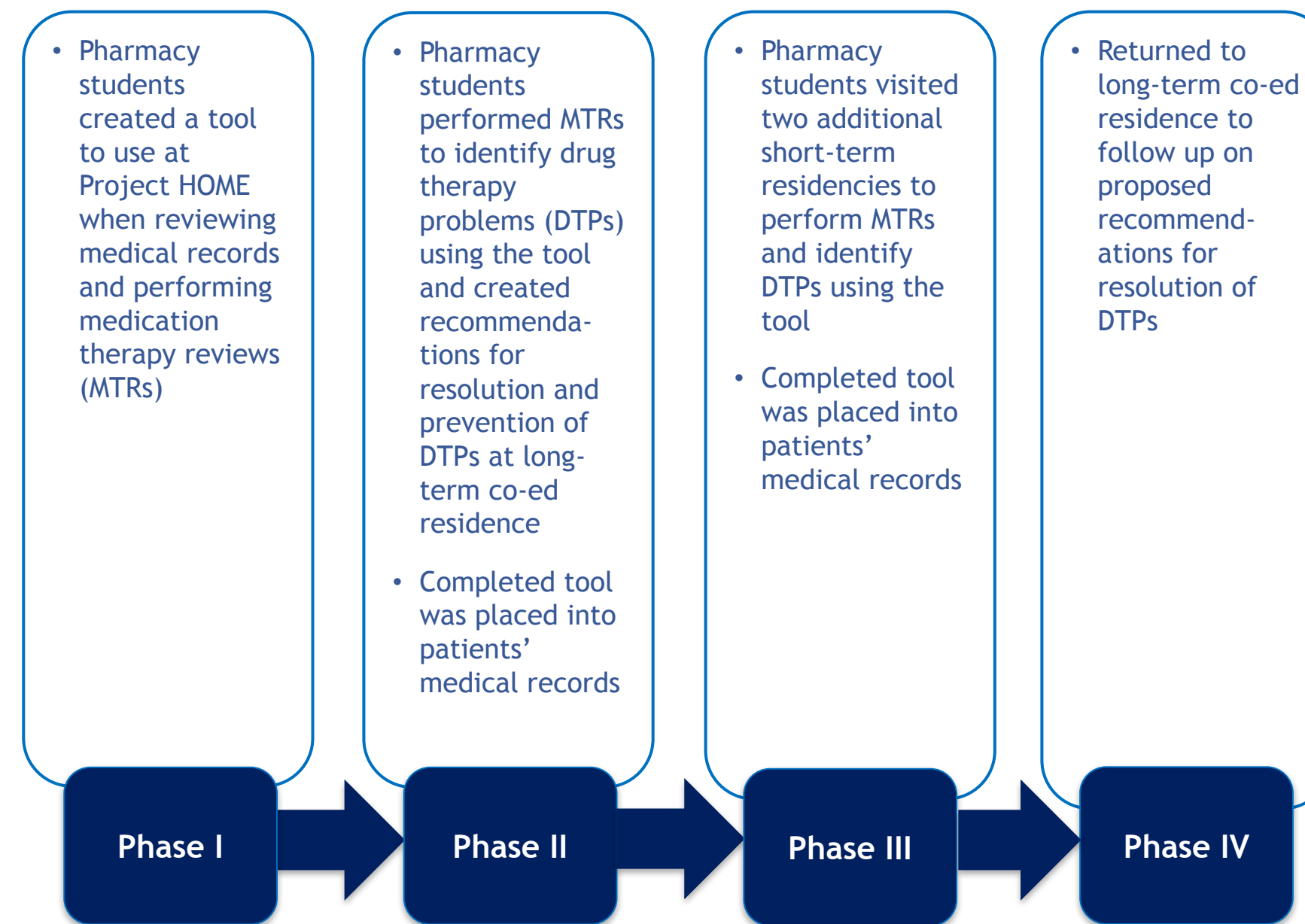


Figure 2: Medication Therapy Review (MTR) Tool

Created by Jefferson Chapter, APhA-ASP

PROJECT HOME: Medication Therapy Review Documentation Tool

Patient: _____ Date of Medication Review: _____
 DOB: _____ Student Pharmacist: _____
 Drug Allergies: _____ Supervising Pharmacist: _____
 Past Medical History: _____

Medication	Drug Therapy Problem(s) Identified <i>(Check all that apply)</i>	Priority of Drug Therapy Problem(s) <i>(low, medium, high)</i>	Recommendation
	<input type="checkbox"/> No known indication <input type="checkbox"/> Unnecessary drug therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Wrong drug <input type="checkbox"/> Dose too low <input type="checkbox"/> Dose too high <input type="checkbox"/> Therapeutic duplication <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse drug reaction <input type="checkbox"/> Drug-drug interaction <input type="checkbox"/> Nonadherence <input type="checkbox"/> Needs additional drug therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Needs refills <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
	<input type="checkbox"/> No known indication <input type="checkbox"/> Unnecessary drug therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Wrong drug <input type="checkbox"/> Dose too low <input type="checkbox"/> Dose too high <input type="checkbox"/> Therapeutic duplication <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse drug reaction <input type="checkbox"/> Drug-drug interaction <input type="checkbox"/> Nonadherence <input type="checkbox"/> Needs additional drug therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Needs refills <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
	<input type="checkbox"/> No known indication <input type="checkbox"/> Unnecessary drug therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Wrong drug <input type="checkbox"/> Dose too low <input type="checkbox"/> Dose too high <input type="checkbox"/> Therapeutic duplication <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse drug reaction <input type="checkbox"/> Drug-drug interaction <input type="checkbox"/> Nonadherence <input type="checkbox"/> Needs additional drug therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Needs refills <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		

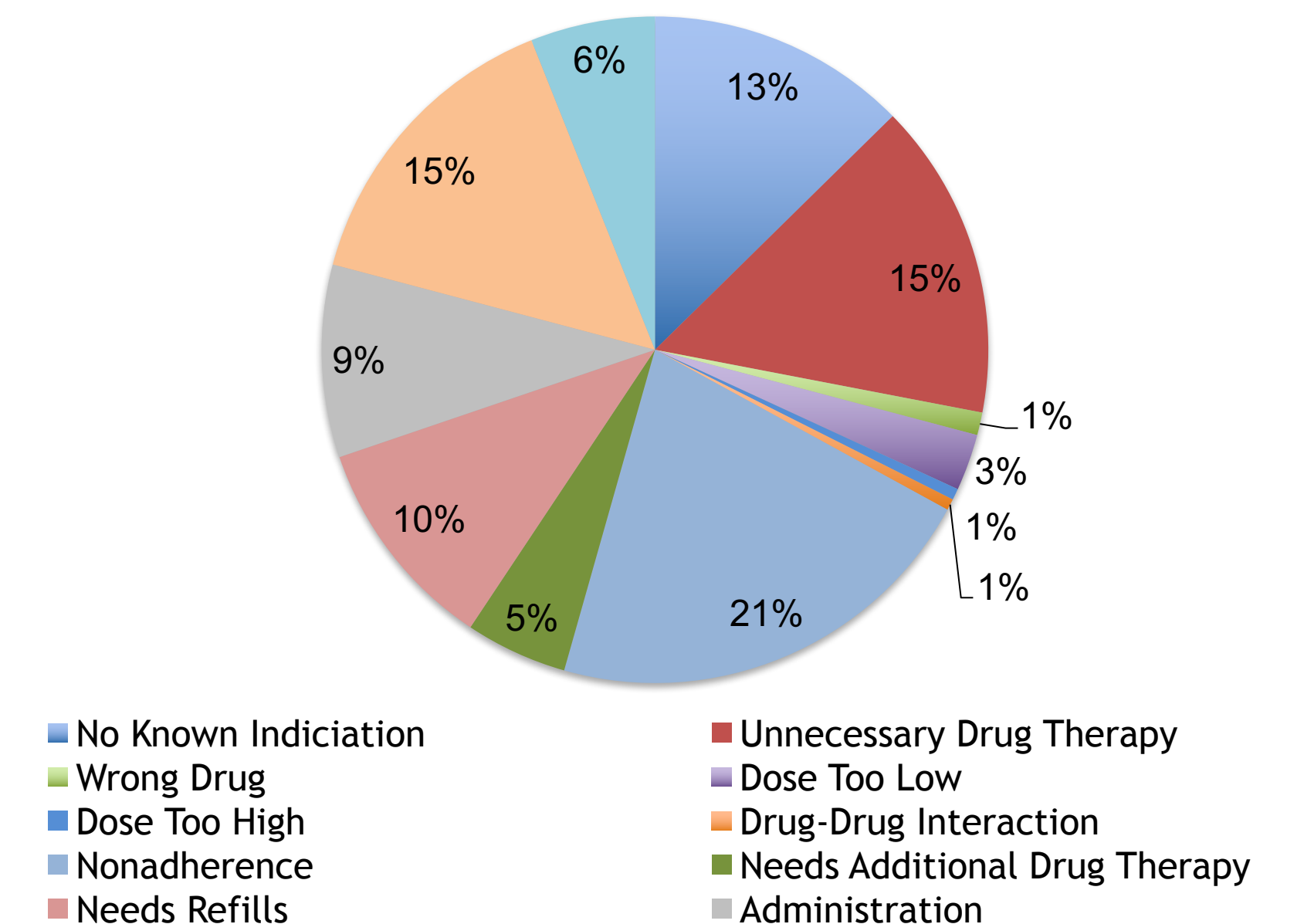
*If additional drug therapy problems identified, use reverse side.

Other comments: _____
 Disease state recommendations: _____
 Medication administration recommendations: _____

Results

- 3 locations of the Project HOME organization:
 - Long-term co-ed housing
 - Short-term male residence
 - Short-term female residence
- 5 third-year pharmacy students visited each home for 3.5 hours to perform MTRs
- In total, 69 patient medical records were reviewed and as a result 470 DTPs were identified
 - On average, 7 DTPs per patient were identified

Figure 3: Types of Identified Drug Therapy Problems (DTPs)



Conclusions

The involvement of pharmacy students can help to identify, resolve, and prevent DTPs for the underserved population at Project HOME, where access to care may be limited. Additional interventions to ensure that identified DTPs are resolved are still needed. Expanding communication of medication review findings to healthcare providers outside of Project HOME would help to guarantee more streamlined care for each of the patients.

Disclosures

Each of the three authors report no vested interests in or affiliation with an organization whose philosophy could potentially bias our presentation, have a specific commercial service or interest in the therapeutic areas, drugs and/or devices under discussion, or a corporate organization offering financial support or grant monies for this continuing education program.