

Introduction

- Scholarly activities, including publications, presentations, and research are incorporated into pharmacy residency programs
- Projects contribute towards leadership and career development
- Maintaining involvement in scholarly work allows pharmacists to be leaders in their respective fields and advance the profession of pharmacy
- Pharmacy practitioners can find it challenging to pursue scholarship activities
- Previously completed surveys have identified barriers to scholarship and provided suggested solutions¹⁻³

Objective

To collect data regarding ambulatory care pharmacist interest in participating in scholarly activities

Methods

- An electronic survey was created and sent to ambulatory care pharmacists throughout the Cleveland Clinic health system via email
- The survey was comprised of thirteen questions relating to the following categories: current area of practice, post-graduate training, cumulative years of work experience, board certification/credentials, career goals, scholarly project areas of interest, type of research, level of presentation (national, state, regional), time commitment preference, professional organization interest, and mentorship opportunities
- Results were converted to an excel sheet, where data was summarized utilizing descriptive statistics

Results

- Twenty-seven ambulatory care pharmacists responded to the survey
- The majority completed PGY-2 residency (74%), and were BCACP certified (56%)
- A total of 37% of participants had 0-2 years of experience after residency, 30% had 3-4 years of experience, 15% had 5-9 years, and 18% had 10+ years of experience
- 96% of pharmacists were willing to spend time outside of work hours to be involved in scholarly projects
- The projects of most interest were health care provider education (74%), poster presentation (67%), and research projects (78%)
- 93% of pharmacists were interested in being a mentee, 41% of pharmacists were interested in being a mentor

Preferred Time Commitment for Scholarly Projects

Time (Hours/Month)	Participants (%)
0	4
1-2	19
3-4	58
5-7	15
>8	4

Disease States of Most Interest

- Diabetes (81%)
- Telehealth (52%)
- Cardiology (48%)

Presentation Platforms of Interest

- Local (93%)
- State (81%)
- Regional (67%)
- National (60%)

Discussion

- Scholarship has long been identified as an important activity for pharmaceutical faculty members, but pharmacists within clinical practice have found it challenging to prioritize scholarly activities⁴⁻⁶
- One previous survey has identified lack of sufficient time, lack of collaborators, and lack of funds and coursework as perceived barriers to scholarship within pharmacy⁷
- Our results showed that pharmacists with a variety of educational backgrounds and experience levels are interested in completing a variety of scholarly activities
- There was a balanced mentor-mentee ratio
- Study limitations include the use of convenience sampling to obtain our study population
- Future goals will be to match ambulatory care pharmacists with similar disease state and project interests, including outcome measurements to assess the degree of increase in scholarly activities

Conclusion

- Overall, this sample of ambulatory care pharmacists were eager to engage in scholarly activities, and were willing to spend time outside of work hours to accomplish this
- The potential for career development through scholarship is an avenue that should be explored further in follow-up studies

References

