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P-087

Pharmacy residency system in Gunma University Hospital



Asami Matsushita ^{a,*}, Daisuke Nagano ^b, Mikako Shimone ^a, Kyoko Obayashi ^a, Takuya Araki ^{a,b}, Koujirou Yamamoto ^{a,b}

^a Department of Pharmacy, Gunma University Hospital, 3-39-15 Showa-machi, Maebashi 371-8511, Japan

^b Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Gunma University Graduate School of Medicine, 3-39-22 Showa-machi,

Maebashi 371-8511, Japan

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Recently, undergraduate and postgraduate pharmaceutical education systems have been changing greatly in Japan. In 2006, undergraduate pharmacist program was changed from 4 years course to 6 years course to train higher-quality pharmacists who can deal with the changes in the progression of medical technology and meet social demands for medication safety [1]. As a postgraduate training system, pharmacy residency system was started in several hospital in 2002, and around 35 hospitals have pharmacy residency system at 2015 [2]. Gunma University Hospital also began pharmacy residency system at April 2013, and 11 pharmacists are in residency training now.

The residency program in Gunma University consists of 2 years course. After 9 months general training for learning fundamental knowledge and skills required for pharmacist to deal with medicines properly at pharmacy, training at ward to learn detail of pharmaceutical therapy, skill of communication with medical staff and patients, and management of medicines at wards starts. General training includes dispensing of internal drugs and injectable drugs at dispensing room, preparation of anti-cancer injectable drugs at chemotherapy center for outpatients, drug formulating at manufacturing room, analysis of drug concentration in blood at clinical laboratory, and handling of drug information at drug information center. In addition to those practical training, case report study, lecture, research activity and international exchange are conducted. After daily work, small group study with advising pharmacist for training of prescription assessment is conducted every week. As an international exchange, residents are given some chance to introduce Japanese hospital pharmacists and their work to students and pharmacists from foreign countries, and talk with them about work of pharmacists in foreign countries. Our training program gives residents many skills and knowledge required

* E-mail address: matsushita.a@gunma-u.ac.jp.

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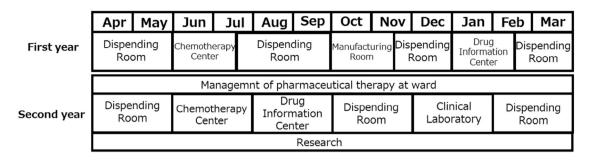


Fig. 1 Resident training program in Gunma University Hospital.

for pharmacist in early state. Furthermore, although many Japanese pharmacists had less chance to hear about work and activity of foreign pharmacist directly from foreign pharmacists because of less chance to contact with them, resident pharmacists are given chance to contact with foreign pharmacists and learn activity of foreign pharmacists to rethink the activity of Japanese pharmacists with a global view. Learning the work and activities of pharmacists in foreign countries gives us many clues to improve our work and pharmaceutical treatment and develop something required for pharmacists of the next generation. We continue to get knowledge and skills to make pharmaceutical therapy more safety and effective. We will be a pharmacist who can resolve clinical problems via scientific approach and worldwide thinking.

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