

UWSOP, Era Living Partner for Patient-Centered Care

UW School of Pharmacy offers a novel approach to student training and patient care in Era Living retirement communities. The program is a mutually beneficial one: in addition to their regular pharmacy services, Era Living residents receive supplemental medication expertise for which UW pharmacy faculty and students are well-known and student pharmacists

have opportunities to enrich their training through supervised resident consultations and more. "As integrated members of the health care team, UW faculty practitioners and our registered nurses, social workers, and care staff are able to share valuable information centered around enhancing the health and well-being of our residents," said Jacob Almo, Vice President of operations at Era Living.

The program benefits UW Pharmacy students by creating opportunities to work alongside faculty pharmacists. On a regular basis, students enhance their training by giving important presentations to residents on a range of topics including drug safety and how to prevent the flu, reduce insomnia, and manage diabetes, osteoporosis and more.

"I learned to see more than the medication list, but to think about how the residents live their lives and the factors that matter to them the most, including medication cost, feasibility, side effects, and tolerability."

SARAH BUTERBAUGH, PHARMD, '16

By being on-site regularly and under faculty supervision, students are available to meet with residents. UW student pharmacist Sarah Buterbaugh helped a resident who had a host of prescriptions, including oral medications, inhalers, and topical products. Working with faculty pharmacist Jennifer Wilson Norton, Sarah helped organize and explain

the medications, including what was mandatory, optional, and how best to store them. "The resident to this day still keeps Sarah's organization system," notes Jennifer.

Era Living offers "a unique environment and a wonderful experience for students," said Sarah. "The geriatric population brings both curiosity and concern in the questions they have and each preceptor had time to discuss with me both the therapeutic options as well as to emphasize considering the resident as a whole. I learned just as much from the residents as the information we delivered to them. This rotation emphasized to me that the pharmacy profession is not just about medications but more importantly is about providing patient-centered care."



Introducing the 30th class of UW Geriatric Pharmacy Certificate graduates (LtoR): Jack Ho, Emily Chang, Susie Gannaw, Joseph Christopher Clifton, Sarah N. Buterbaugh, Amy Midori Munekiyo, Sei-Jung Megan Lee, Lindsey Berg, James Lin, Clara Park, Czarina Lauren Viado Franco, Hannah DeMeritt, and Ashley Hummel Warcola (not pictured; Ingrid Lee, Trisha Mow, Kelsey B. Rasmussen, and Jessica L Shih).