

2023 Faculty Research Proposal for UAMS College of Pharmacy Summer Student Research Fellowship

FACULTY INFORMATION:

NAME: Brett Bailey, Pharm.D.

Layton Kelley, Pharm.D.

DEPARTMENT: Pharmacy Practice

Pharmaceutical Sciences

LOCATION: UAMS Outpatient Pharmacy

PROJECT INFORMATION:

TITLE: Impact of Meds-to-Beds Services on Readmission Rates

LOCATION OF THE PROJECT: UAMS Outpatient Pharmacy

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

In April of 2020, the UAMS Outpatient Pharmacy started a Meds-to-Beds program where they deliver medications to the patient's bedside and provide counseling on medications prior to discharge. The intent of the program was to streamline workflows and improve overall patient outcomes while being discharged from the hospital, especially in the tight staffing that has become the norm during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Readmission rate is a quality metric that has become more important across the country, especially in relation to hospital reimbursement models and the expansion of value-based care. It is often measured as a percentage of eligible discharged patients who return to the hospital within a 30-day post-discharge period. A common factor in the readmission of a patient is whether they were able to pick up and start taking their discharge medications.

Meds-to-Beds programs simplify this process by filling discharge prescriptions prior to discharge and delivering to the patient. This workflow minimizes the chance that patients do not start these medications. Additionally, counseling provided by Meds to Beds pharmacists should ensure patients are comfortable with these new medications. We hypothesize that implementation of Meds-to-Beds services reduced our readmission rates in our Meds to Beds patients compared to other patients.

Compare the readmission rates (both internal and external) of individuals who enrolled in and declined Meds-to-Beds Services

The student will prepare an IRB proposal, collect data, analyze, and prepare a manuscript on the effect of Meds-to-Beds Services on readmission rates by comparing the readmission rates

of patients who enrolled and declined services. Secondary outcomes could focus on specific disease outcomes (MI, CHF, COPD, etc.).

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES-DUTIES IN THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Practice Component:

- Training in UAMS Outpatient Pharmacy Meds to Beds Program
- Working alongside pharmacists & technicians in Meds to Beds Program to dispense medications to discharging patients
- Participate in topic discussions relevant to Meds to Beds / Pharmacy Management

Research Component:

- Complete human subjects research certifications as required by UAMS IRB
- Conduct a literature review of meds-to-beds outcomes studies
- Develop and submit IRB proposal and data collection specification
- Assist in data analysis and reporting
- Write a manuscript summarizing findings and either submit for publication or poster

ESTIMATED TIME FOR PROJECT COMPLETION: ___10___ weeks

DOES THE WORK INVOLVE ANIMAL RESEARCH? YES
 NO

ORAL/POSTER PRESENTATION OPPORTUNITY:

The student will be expected to submit an abstract for poster presentation at minimum at a local (UAMS), state (APA), or national meeting (NCPA/ASHP). The student will be given the opportunity to submit a manuscript of the research findings to a relevant journal.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION:

Hospital Pharmacy
American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy