**2024 Faculty Research Proposal for UAMS College of Pharmacy Summer Student Research Fellowship**

***FACULTY INFORMATION:***

**NAME: Holly Maples**

**DEPARTMENT:** Pharmacy Practice

Pharmaceutical Sciences

**LOCATION: Arkansas Children’s**

***PROJECT INFORMATION:***

**TITLE:** Implementing and Assessing Strategies to Improve Antibiotic Usage, Diagnostic Testing, and Narrowing the Gap in Health Disparities in Pediatric Infections.

**LOCATION OF THE PROJECT:** Arkansas Children’s

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT OR SPECIFIC AIMS:**

The antimicrobial stewardship program at Arkansas Children’s is currently involved in Quality Improvement and Implementation Science Research to discover ways of improving antibiotic utilization in children in both the inpatient and outpatient setting and across the system that includes both the Northwest and Little Rock campuses. We continue to see a rise in antibiotic resistance even to the most common pediatric infections like skin and soft tissue, urinary tract, otitis media, and even meningitis! This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of the building blocks of this program as we move forward taking an initial look at how antibiotics are currently being used and where we can place an intervention (education- both provider and patient, pathway/order set) and study the intervention type. Every project that we now conduct also involves assessing how we also utilize diagnostic testing as well as assessing for health disparities. There are many opportunities for the student to focus this quality improvement research project.

**STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITIES/DUTIES FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT:**

The student will be a part of the research project proposal development and submission to the IRB. The student will also assist in development of a data collection tool, collect data, and analyze! You will be a part of a multi-disciplinary team! Goals will be to submit this data to a national meeting for presentation and possibly a manuscript. All of this is not possible in a 10 week summer session, but further opportunity afterwards may be available as a research work study student, elective credit during future semesters, or an APPE rotation in research. Looking for students who are interested in either hospital or ambulatory/outpatient, have an interest in improving antibiotic usage, finding ways to improve the gap in health disparities and wanting to be a part of making an impact in either infectious diseases and/or kids lives!

**ESTIMATED TIME FOR PROJECT COMPLETION: \_\_10+\_\_\_\_ weeks** (≥10 weeks required) (see explanation above)

**DOES THE WORK INVOLVE ANIMAL RESEARCH? YES**

**NO**

**ORAL/POSTER PRESENTATION OPPORTUNITY:**

Yes…Nationally

**MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION:**

Possible journal names for this work to be submitted: Pediatric Infectious Diseases Journal, Journal of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Pediatrics, Rural Health