

Example Project List

HIPAA-Friendly AI Software Options.....	1
Create a biosimilar coverage summary chart.	2
Decentralized Pharmacy Proposal.....	3
Hep C Protocol Development.....	4
Medication Use Policies.....	5
New Pharmacist Business Plan.	6
Outpatient Billing Review.....	7
Process Improvement Example.	8
Root Cause Analysis.	9
Safety Event Analysis.	10
Cost-benefit analysis of chemotherapy use in patients.....	11

HIPAA-Friendly AI Software Options

Site's overall goal- Explore different HIPAA-friendly artificial intelligence (AI) software options that may be utilized by the pharmacy team

Example student project topic- Complete background research about different HIPAA-friendly AI programs and present the findings to the pharmacy team.

How this contributes to the site: The practice site wants to learn about different AI options that meet HIPAA requirements. One or more of the options may be incorporated into pharmacy and hospital workflows.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction -Shadow current pharmacist to learn workflows -Discuss what portions of workflow AI assistance would be most useful for - Establish student's responsibilities/roles in project	5 hours
Background research	-Review HIPAA requirements from hospital - Research 7 potential AI programs and briefly summarize their capabilities -Create a pros and cons list for each option	10 hours
Check-in meeting	-Meet with site member to discuss options and narrow down to top 5 - Determine other details or information that may be necessary to gather for top 5 options	5 hours
Collect additional information and make presentation	-Research and compile additional information -Create presentation or handout for pharmacy team	15 hours
Wrap up	-Present findings to team - Final meeting with mentor to discuss project and potential effects on site	5 hours

Materials produced by student- HIPAA-friendly AI overview presentation or handout

Create a biosimilar coverage summary chart

Site's overall goal- Ensure that patients are being prescribed the preferred biosimilar based on expected insurance coverage

Example student project topic- Review insurance formulary records based off of insurance BIN numbers to identify their preferred biosimilar products. Create a coverage chart that can be updated yearly as formularies are updated.

How this contributes to the site: The site will utilize the chart to reduce time spent researching insurance coverage for specific biologics, reducing the time to therapy initiation for patients being treated with biologics.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction -Discuss issues the site has seen with determining coverage -Review student roles and responsibilities	5 hours
Data Review	-Review RX data from last 3 months to gather most common RX BIN for biosimilar RXs -Determine most common 50 insurance plans -Create chart draft	10 hours
Data Input	-Determine coverage options for top 50 insurance plans -Update chart with coverage information	10 hours
Check- in meeting and edits	-Meet with project mentor to discuss first draft -Make edits based off feedback from meeting	10 hours
Wrap up	- Final meeting with mentor to discuss the chart with team and potential effects on site	5 hours

Materials produced by student- Biosimilar coverage chart

Decentralized Pharmacy Proposal

Site's overall goal: Transition the current pharmacy staffing service line to a decentralized pharmacy staffing model.

Example student project topic: Research and draft a proposal for transitioning to a decentralized pharmacy model at UAMS, including potential benefits and implementation steps

How this contributes to the site: Utilizing a decentralized pharmacy staffing model will allow the site to enhance patient care and medication management by improving pharmacist accessibility. The site will use the student's project as a starting point for developing their proposal to be presented to management.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	- Site introduction/meet mentor - Discuss goals of decentralizing pharmacy and general idea for process - Discuss roles and responsibilities	5 hours
Background research	- Research the difference between centralized and decentralized pharmacy models - Research financial cost of moving to a decentralized model - Develop 1 st draft of proposal	15 hours
Check-in meeting	- Meet with site mentor to review 1 st draft of the proposal - Discuss any changes or edits that need to be made to proposal	5 hours
Protocol Edits	- Edit and complete proposal - Send to project mentor	10 hours
Wrap up	- Meet to discuss final version of proposal - Discuss how proposal will be used - Discuss the effect this will have on practice site	5 hours

Materials developed by student: Written proposal for moving to a decentralized pharmacy model

Hep C Protocol Development

Site's overall goal- Create a draft protocol for treatment of donor positive Hepatitis C kidney transplant recipients.

Example student project topic- Review guideline updates and create a draft protocol. After completing the review, the student will summarize and discuss the main points of the protocol with the transplant team.

How this contributes to the site: The pharmacists at this site will utilize the protocol to choose the recommended treatment options for the recipients of Hepatitis C-positive kidney transplants. Creating a protocol will ensure that current guideline recommendations are incorporated into the site's workflow.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction/shadow pharmacist -Discuss how the protocol will be used -Discuss roles and responsibilities of project	5 hours
Background research	- Review hepatitis C disease process -Review and summarize guidelines -Highlight key components of guidelines to include in protocol	10 hours
Check-in meeting	-Meet with site mentor to discuss guideline recommendation -Discuss specifics of protocol and how they are written	5 hours
Protocol Edits	-Create 1 st draft -Send 1 st draft to mentor -Following mentor review, make any additional edits	15 hours
Wrap up	-Discuss final version of protocol - Discuss how the new protocol will be used	5 hours

Materials developed by student: Guideline summary, Protocol Edits

Medication Use Policies

Site's overall goal: Improve medication use processes involving renally dosed medications.

Example student project topic: Research and update the renal dosing policy for the hospital, including guidelines on how and when pharmacists should calculate Creatinine Clearance (CrCl).

How this contributes to the site: Reviewing and updating the hospital's renal dosing policy will ensure appropriate medication adjustments are made for patients with impaired kidney function. This will improve patient safety and minimize adverse drug effects.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction - Discuss the current renal dosing policy, identify areas for improvement, -Discuss roles and responsibilities of project	5 hours
Background research	- Review renal dosing guidelines - Review other resources on CrCl calculations and medication adjustments -Review current hospital policies, make edits - create quick reference sheet for pharmacists to use when determining if they need to calculate CrCl	15 hours
Check-in meeting	-Meet with site mentor to discuss proposed edits to current policy for renally dosing medications and review reference sheet	5 hours
Protocol edits	-update renal dosing policy and quick reference sheet to incorporate edits and suggestions from mentors	10 hours
Wrap up	-Discuss final version of protocol and quick reference sheet - Discuss how the new protocol will be used	5 hours

Materials developed by student: Updated renal dosing policy document , guidelines for pharmacists on CrCl calculations and dosing adjustment

New Pharmacist Business Plan

Site's overall goal- Create a business plan to justify hiring a new pharmacist within a department.

Example student project topic- Create a business plan that looks at the expected costs, revenue, and other benefits of adding another pharmacist within a pharmacy department.

How this contributes to the site: The practice site wants to add another pharmacist position within the department but needs to justify the expense to management. The information and plan the student develops will be used by the department as a draft of the business plan that goes to management for review.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction -Discuss student roles and responsibilities for the project - Review components of business plan that need to be included	5 hours
Background research	- Research examples of business plans - Complete market research for pharmacist compensation - Research ROI for pharmacist positions -Research pharmacist impact on patient care measures	15 hours
Drafting Business Plan	-Create 1 st draft of business plan	10 hours
Check-in and Revisions	-Hold check-in meeting with mentor to review 1 st draft -Make revisions following meeting	10 hours
Wrap up	- Final meeting with mentor to discuss project and potential effects on site	5 hours

Materials produced by student- Business Plan for new position

Outpatient Billing Review

Site's overall goal- Multiple formulations of the hepatitis B vaccine are currently stocked in clinic. The site wants to review insurance claims to see which formulation has the highest reimbursement rate across insurance companies.

Example student project topic- Review insurance claims for all hepatitis B vaccines administered in clinic over the last 6 months to determine which formulation has the highest reimbursement rate.

How this contributes to the site: This will help the site minimize inventory costs and maximize reimbursement by only keeping the vaccines with the highest reimbursement rates in the clinic. This will also help improve patient safety by minimizing the risk of a vaccine error due to accidentally administering the wrong product formulation.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction -Overview of reimbursement data -Review spreadsheet and discuss what each row means - Discuss expectations for student	5 hours
Background research and data review	- Research in-clinic reimbursement rates -Review spreadsheet data and summarize findings - Highlight any outliers in data	15 hours
Check-in meeting	-Meet with project mentor to review findings -Discuss ideas to maximize reimbursement based off findings	5 hours
Create summary and proposed solutions	-Summarize findings in handout with charts -Create report with proposal to maximize reimbursement	10 hours
Wrap up	- Present report and proposal to mentor and other team members - Discuss the impact of potential cost savings and how findings will be used	5 hours

Materials developed by student: Cost report and savings proposal

Process Improvement Example

Site's overall goal- A site has recently been having issues with patients complaining about long wait times for vaccines (or patients leaving altogether). On several occasions, the site has had to waste a vaccine due to the patient leaving. They would like to revise their workflow for the vaccine clinic to minimize patient wait times.

Example student project topic- Work with the site to create and pilot a revised workflow for the vaccine clinic.

How this contributes to the site: A new workflow can help the pharmacy reduce patient wait times and minimize material and monetary waste from an unused vaccine. By piloting the workflow with a small team, any changes can be made prior to training the entire staff.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	- Meet with site mentor and discuss workflow - shadow pharmacist who is assigned vaccine duty for the day, take notes of any issues -Discuss student roles/responsibilities for project	8 hours
Draft workflow	- Create 1st draft of workflow - Outline responsibilities of each pharmacy station -Email 1st draft to mentor for review	10 hours
Check-in meeting	-Meet with project mentor to discuss workflow draft -Talk about any potential changes that need to be made to workflow -Make any changes following meeting with mentor	5 hours
Staff education	- Along with mentor, teach a small team of pharmacists and technicians the roles of each station	3 hours
Pilot workflow day	- Pilot the new workflow for a day while helping to troubleshoot issues	8 hours

Wrap up	- Review pilot day with mentor and discuss any issues from the day -Discuss how site will utilize workflow in future	5 hours
---------	---	---------

Materials produced by student- Vaccine clinic workflow, description of responsibilities for each pharmacy station

Root Cause Analysis

Site's overall goal- The site recently discovered that propofol was not being secured properly in the operating room. They want to complete a root cause analysis and a PDSA cycle plan surrounding this event.

Example student project topic- Complete a root cause analysis and PDSA cycle plan and present the findings to the medication safety team.

How this contributes to the site: The site will utilize the root cause analysis to develop and implement a plan to securely store propofol in the operating room. They will also continue the PDSA cycle plan and report on their findings during their annual safety report.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction -Meet with mentor and discuss the event and hospital policy for storing propofol - Establish student's responsibilities/roles in the project	5 hours
Background research	- Research processes for completing a root cause analysis and PDSA cycle plan -Create a list of questions for root cause analysis and send to mentor	10 hours
Check-in meeting	-Meet with mentor to review questions - Meet with mentor and OR staff member and ask questions for RCA	5 hours
Complete RCA and draft a PDSA cycle plan	- Complete RCA using information from staff interview - Draft a PDSA cycle that can be used to determine if RCA intervention is successful	15 hours
Wrap up	- Go over RCA and PDSA cycle plan with members of medication safety team -discuss how site will determine if the intervention was successful	5 hours

Materials produced by student- Completed RCA, Proposed PDSA cycle plan

Safety Event Analysis

Site's overall goal- Improve Safety Event review processes to better address safety concerns and develop recommendations to prevent future events.

Example student project topic- Review safety event reports from the last month to create a summary of incidents and provide actionable recommendations for process improvements to prevent future occurrences.

How this contributes to the site: The health system is required to regularly report any drug-related safety events to the management team. By having the student create an example using 1 month of data, the hospital can use this as a standardized guide for others to report on safety concerns.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction -Meet with medication safety officer to discuss how reports are identified and pulled - Establish student's responsibilities/roles in the project	5 hours
Background research	- Review safety reports and identify safety concerns -Search ISMP databases for similar safety issues and recommendations -Create draft list of medication issues and potential solutions	10 hours
Check-in meeting	-Meet with site member to discuss initial findings - Review required details for reporting	5 hours
Create reporting sheet and user guides	-Create blank reporting sheet for future reports -Create example reports for each safety event over the last month -Make tip sheet for filling out future reports	15 hours
Wrap up	-Present reports to team - Final meeting with mentor to discuss project and potential effects on site	5 hours

Materials produced by student- Example reports, blank safety event report, tip sheet

Cost-benefit analysis of chemotherapy use in patients

Site's overall goal- Optimize the use of subcutaneous daratumumab in the hospital in a cost effective manner

Example student project topic- Research drug and administration costs of IV and SQ daratumumab, and create a proposal for how to best optimize the use of SQ daratumumab in the hospital in a cost-effective manner

How this contributes to the site: The protocol will highlight a cost reduction associated with subcutaneous daratumumab administration. The site can use the protocol as a guide for making a proposal to management committees.

Activity	Brief description of responsibilities	Est. time to complete
Intro meeting with site	-Site introduction -Discuss current daratumumab administration procedures -Discuss cost of subq vs IV daratumumab administration - Establish student's responsibilities/roles in project	5 hours
Background research	-Research different routes of daratumumab administration -Review charts to determine how many patients could potentially have received subq daratumumab -Calculate cost savings from transitioning those patients	10 hours
Draft Protocol	-Create 1 st draft of protocol	10 hours
Check- in meeting and edits	-Meet with project mentor to discuss first draft -Make edits based off feedback from meeting	10 hours
Wrap up	- Final meeting with mentor to discuss the protocol and potential effects on site	5 hours

Materials produced by student- Subq daratumumab administration protocol