

UC San Diego Health

Inpatient Pharmacy Technician Roles

Charles E. Daniels, B.S. Pharm., Ph.D.
Chief Pharmacy Officer & Associate Dean

Nancy T. Yam, Pharm.D, BCPS
Associate Chief Pharmacy Officer, PIC





Practice Advancement Initiative 2030

- Optimize medication use and access through pharmacist prescribing.
- Leverage and utilize technology to optimize pharmacist provision of care to patients.
- Ensure all patients receive seamless and coordinated pharmacy services at all transitions of care.
- Improve patient access to pharmacist services in ambulatory care clinics.
- Expand the role of pharmacy technicians.

Inpatient Pharmacy Technician Duties

- Sterile and non-sterile compounding
- Managing and maintaining stock including inventory in automated unit dose system
- Filling patient specific orders
- Controlled substances distribution from Pharmacy to automated unit dose dispensing systems and ensuring quality assurance in process



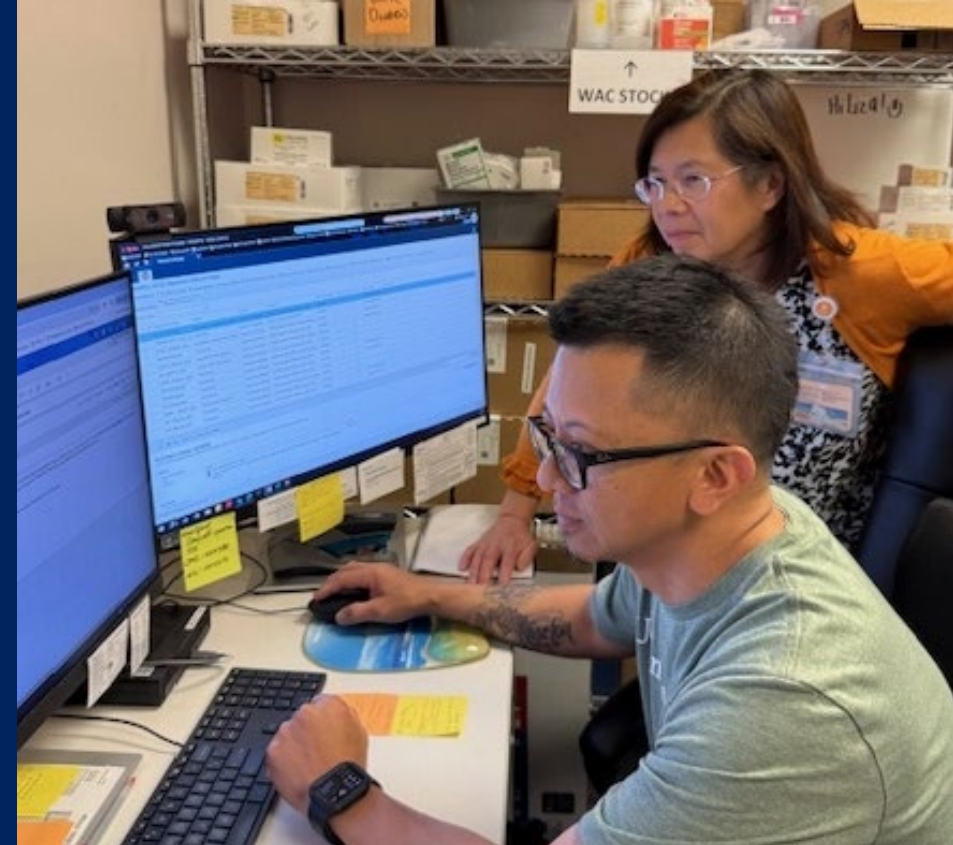
Sterile Compounding

- Hazardous
- Non-hazardous
- Can be a Designated Person (DP) or assigned trainer per USP
- Compounding quality tests
- Automation oversight
- Supervision by pharmacist



Managing Stock

- Purchasing
 - Review of inventory and par levels
 - Assist in drug shortage mitigation strategies
- Automated unit dose system functions:
 - Deliver to specific patient care area
 - automated unit dose system (AUDS) to
 - Place barcode scanned product into the individual AUDS pocket



Filling Patient Specific Orders

- Daily list of compounded, patient specific unit dose packages, and liquid dose oral syringes is generated by computer for workload management
- Pharmacy tech completes these duties under supervision of pharmacist



Controlled Substance Distribution



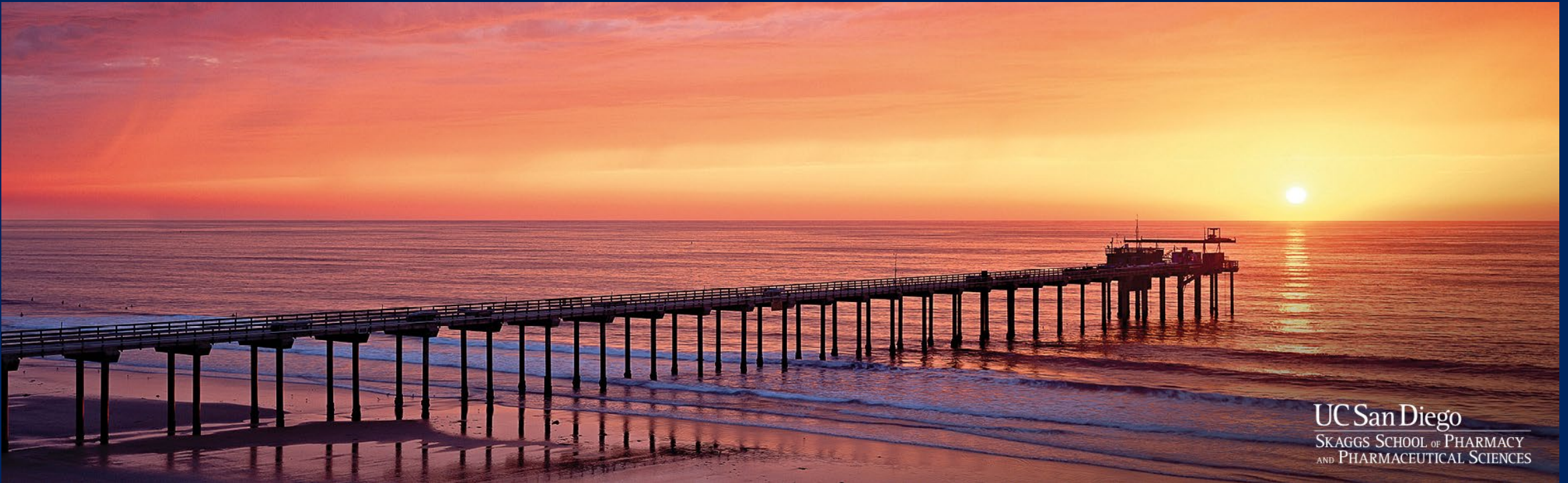
- Use automated unit dose system on-hand quantities and par levels to identify replacement levels
- Removed from automated central vault with oversight and count by supervising pharmacist
- Review transactions for follow-up and guidance to user

Best Possible Medication Histories (BPMH)

- Review patient medication history and current medication list
- Consult with patient, designated care givers, and review pharmacy dispensing data to update and ensure medication list is accurate
- Validate findings with pharmacist

Managing Tech to Pharmacist Ratios

- Daily schedule is planned around minimum pharmacist staff numbers
- Use predefined staffing plan as template
- Managers and PIC finalize schedule before posting to ensure ratios meet legal requirements



Thank you!
Comments or Questions?

UC San Diego
HEALTH SCIENCES