

WHAT IS ONCOLOGY PHARMACY?

Student Resource

(And other frequently asked questions.)

WHAT IS A PHARMACIST?

Pharmacists are medicine experts. Pharmacy is a healthcare profession that involves the distribution and clinical use of medications. Many services are encompassed within the profession of pharmacy, such as prescription dispensing, ensuring safe and effective medication use, and additional clinical opportunities, which can involve vaccine administration, patient education, and research.



WHAT ARE SOME PHARMACY CAREER PATHS?

Pharmacists don't just work at drugstores. They can work in community and hospital settings, clinics, government/public health, pharmaceutical industry, colleges of pharmacy, informatics, and research. Pharmacists can also specialize in disease states such as cardiology, pediatrics, or oncology (cancer).



WHY CHOSE A CAREER IN PHARMACY?

Pharmacy combines science, patient care, and problem solving. It is a great profession if you love:

- Biology, chemistry, or math
- You enjoy patient education and teamwork
- You have attention to detail
- Are interested in healthcare but want a shorter training path than medical school

WHAT DO HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY PHARMACISTS DO?

Hematology/oncology pharmacists are medicine experts who help treat people with cancer or blood disorders. Their job is to make sure patients get the right medications, at the right doses, in the safest way possible. They work closely with doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers to:

- Choose the best drugs for each patient's type of cancer or blood condition
- Help monitor and manage side effects from treatments like chemotherapy
- Teach patients and families how to take their medicines correctly
- Keep track of how well the medications are working



WHERE DO HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY PHARMACISTS WORK?

- Hospitals or cancer treatment centers
- Outpatient clinics
- Clinical trial programs
- Specialty pharmacies that provide oral cancer medications



HOPA
Hematology/Oncology
Pharmacy Association

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