Oncology Rotation

Description of Rotation:

A focused look at chemotherapy/oncology patients and their special needs, treatment involving chemotherapy, managing side-effect of therapy, palliative care needs.

Goals of Rotation:

1. Facilitate student learning and thinking of the ambulatory patients needs.
2. Understand the patient health care needs.
3. Utilization of evidence based medicine.
4. Enhance and reinforce didactic course work.
5. Develop interpersonal communication skills.
6. Develop counseling skills relevant to oncology patients and their family.
7. Understand chemotherapy regimens and their timing.
8. Practice palliative care
9. Describe preventative measures that are relevant to cancer patients

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this rotation the student should be able to:

1. Describe the symptomatology, physical findings, pathophysiology, diagnostic procedures, laboratory tests, primary and alternative pharmacotherapies, and non pharmacological treatments for disease states encountered during the rotation.
2. Describe and understand the general principle of immunization, including appropriate schedules as well as immunizations required in specific patient populations. Demonstration of proper injection technique may also be assessed.
3. Provide recommendations for medication dose adjustments based upon pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles.
4. Provide appropriate monitoring parameters for the chosen treatment plan (including efficacy, toxicity, side effects, and potential drug interactions).
5. Effectively communicate the drug treatment plan to the patient with appropriate precautions and expectations.
7. Discuss the benefits and limitations of alternative medicine (i.e., herbal therapy, biofeedback, etc.).
8. Document all appropriate recommendations and interventions.
9. Understand the role of palliative care in this patient population
Activities:

1. Patient interviews and care plans
   a. Medication Therapy Management
   b. Patient goal setting
2. Case/disease state presentations and discussions
3. Research drug information question
4. Educational programs
   a. Patients
   b. Medical Staff
   c. Students
5. Newsletter
6. Physical Assessment
7. Define patient goals for each disease state
8. Data collection
9. Required Readings

Disease States Encountered:

1. Anemia
2. Breast Cancer
3. Colon Cancer
4. Lung Cancer
5. Lymphomas
6. Prostate Cancer
7. Ovarian
8. Testicular
9. Bladder
10. Melanoma
11. Leukemia
12. Neuroblastoma
13. Head and Neck Cancers
14. Fatigue
15. Nausea/Vomiting
16. Hypercalcemia
17. Tumor-Lysis Syndrome
18. Neutropenic Fever
19. Metastases
20. Increased Intracranial Pressure
21. Superia Vena Cava Syndrome
Potential longitudinal activities to accomplish at site:

1. Identify and collect appropriate drug-related monitoring parameters for each assigned patient
2. Maintain an adequate patient data base for each assigned patient
3. Identify and prioritize drug-related problems for each assigned patient
4. Assess the appropriateness of each assigned patient’s drug therapy
5. Construct a detailed pharmacotherapeutic plan for each assigned patient
6. Present all patient data in a concise and meaningful fashion
7. Provides evidence-based regimens and monitoring plans for each patient
8. Obtain and write-up a patient medication history
9. Provide medication information to a unique cultural and socioeconomic diverse patient
10. Counsel a patient on their medications
11. Provide a verbal therapeutic plan recommendation to another health-care professional
12. Perform medication reconciliation for patients
13. Interpret diagnostic tests results for patient/caregiver/or preceptor
14. Take a patient’s blood pressure
15. Take a patient’s pulse
16. Assess a patient’s peripheral edema
17. Take a patient’s respiratory rate
18. Assess a patient’s temperature
19. Provide an optimal pain management or palliative care plan for a patient
20. Observe a Health Care professional perform a full physical examination and assess results
21. Make a warfarin dosage adjustment based on patient parameters
22. Recommend empiric antibiotic therapy
23. Recommend antibiotic therapy based upon a culture and sensitivity
24. Assess the significance of a drug-drug interaction
25. Adjust a drug dose in a patient with renal insufficiency
26. Determine monitoring parameters for a patient being treated for an infectious disease
27. Assist in explaining to a patient or caregiver their health-insurance options
28. Prepare a written pharmacokinetic consultation
29. Prepare a handout for case presentation
30. Prepare an article for a newsletter or publication
31. Prepare a patient education sheet
32. Prepare a written drug information response in a practice setting
33. Provide an education presentation to pharmacists
34. Provide an education presentation to other health care professionals
35. Lead a Journal Club discussion
36. Participate in a Patient/Medication Safety Review or error reduction program
37. Participate in a discussion of a pharmacist role in ethical issues related to any of the following topics: end of life care, professional behavior, clinical research, and pharmacy current event/hot button issue