

# The Case for Global Pharmacy Education Reform Towards a Needs-Based Paradigm

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# Public Health Considerations

- Role of Drugs, Biologicals, Vaccines and Contrast Media in prevention, diagnostics, treatment, and cure
- Cost effective and efficient approach to most acute and chronic conditions
- Scientific, technical and professional processes for logistics management from manufacturer to ultimate user (patient and/or health care provider)
- Quality assurance and patient safety in medication use in ambulatory and institutional setting
- Self-diagnosis and access to medicines
- Pharmacist collaborative, supplementary, interdependent and/or independent prescribing
- Evolution to 'personalized' or 'individualized' medicine (e.g. warfarin)
- Endemic and/or pandemic disease management (e.g. flu vaccine, ebola)

# Societal Considerations

- All societies and cultures across the globe use medications, whether manufactured, compounded and/or naturally occurring substances
- “Medicines’ have social and cultural meaning: they have ‘power’
- Access, affordability, quality and safety of the drug armementarium are major political agenda issues in health care policy in all societies
- The customary ‘privilege’ of prescribing is being expanded in many societies to health care providers other than physicians (e.g. pharmacists, nurses, optometrists)
- Liberalization of market policies is challenging pharmacy’s ‘franchise’
- Consumers desire a stronger partnership role with health practitioners
- Approximately 50% of the prescriptions written for patients are never filled
- Approximately 10% of emergency room visits are attributable to drug misadventures
- WHO: Universal Access and Millenium Health Goals (e.g. non-communicable disease, malaria and Tuberculosis)
- Development of the global health workforce (including pharmacists)
- Creating sustainable health-systems for the long-term

# Pharmacy Education's Global Challenge

- For its graduates to be relevant and competent to bring value to a nation's health care system and its populations
- To prepare individuals whose competence reflects contemporary science and practice to bear on the needs of the nation, including effective professional socialization that embraces the values of the profession and envisions a new future with its concomitant challenges
- To adequately consider the multiple roles that pharmacists play in a nation's health care system: patient care, pharmaceutical industry, administrative and policy management, regulatory and drug quality management, etc.
- Being accountable to the public and the profession for preparing sufficient numbers of pharmacists as well pharmacists with the 'right' competencies required by the nation
- Enabling pharmacy graduates to participate in the civil society as learned members of that society
- Rewarding graduates with an appropriate credential that is consistent with the rigor of the curriculum and the needs of the profession
- Having a well-qualified faculty, facilities for education that assist learning, and a curriculum that meets present and future competence needs

# Pharmacy Considerations

- Clinical management of drug therapy at the patient and population level
- Issues around competency assessment and public accountability
- Severe mal-distribution and/or shortages of pharmacists
- Scope of practice and role shifting, including legal scope of practice
- Pharmacy technician education, certification and regulation
- Regulatory advancements for improving Good Pharmacy Practice
- Recommendations coming from the Global Consensus Conference for the Future of Hospital Pharmacy (Basel, 2008)
- Learnings from the Good Pharmacy Practice pilot projects in Thailand and Uruguay
- Movement towards pharmacists independent and/or collaborative, interdependent prescribing
- Role of pharmacists in immunization (e.g. Portugal, Thailand)

# FIPs Strategic Agenda Related to Pharmacy Education

- The scope, quality and impact of pharmacists in any society is directly and inextricably linked to the quality and scope of pharmacy education that they have received
- The profession of pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences can only achieve their aspired vision of the future from a strong base in university education of pharmacists
- FIP's work with WHO and UNESCO over the past several years has brought greater recognition to the gap between pharmacy education and pharmacy practice and science *vis* strategies related to rational use of drugs, human resources deployment, quality and safety in health care and a variety of other global health policies
- FIPs Initiative in Education (FIPEd) and its collaboration with the University of London School of Pharmacy have identified seven (10) major domains for further elaboration and action [two reports per year on these topics]
- Reports for 2015: Interprofessional Education; Advanced Practice
- Five-year Strategic Plan has been developed [see [www.fip.org](http://www.fip.org)]
- Planning for a Global Conference on Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Education in People's Republic of China in 2017 (planning has begun)

# The Purpose of Today's Discussion

Firstly, to bring together leaders in pharmacy education in Costa Rica, to discuss the agenda for policy & development

## **The purpose is to identify:**

- National imperatives in education (together with the challenges these bring);
- Strategic objectives;
- Ways of communicating goals and challenges to critical stakeholders;
- Ways in which a pharmacy education reform agenda could be constructed and implemented;

We should also try to gain a sense of commitment from this audience to take forward this discussion towards action in Costa Rica

So, we ask...How would you advise the reform in pharmacy education 'movement' to move forward in Costa Rica *and* are you personally willing to play a role in it?



# Questions or Comments??

