

IPE ROLES: PHARMACIST (PHARM.D.)

Education and Training

- Doctoral degree in pharmacy
- 1-year pharmacy practice residency
- National examination
- State license
- Optional board certifications in specialties (e.g., oncology, nutrition support, critical care)

Role and Skills

- Conducts comprehensive medication review
- Completes medication reconciliation
- Reviews vaccines
- Monitors medications
- Educates patients on:
 - Inhaler technique
 - Insulin injections
 - Glucometer use
 - Medication adherence

When You Might Need Them:

- To assist with an adverse drug event
- To counsel patients struggling with medication adherence
- To help with changing or tapering medications
- To address drug coverage and insurance issues
- To communicate with patient's community and/or hospital pharmacists
- To answer questions related to new drugs and new practice guidelines

IPE ROLES: DIETITIAN (R.D. OR RDN)

Education and Training

- Bachelor's degree in nutrition/dietetics
 - Masters degree will be required beginning in 2024
- Supervised practice program (6-12 months, or more than 1,200 hours)
- National examination
- State license

Role and Skills

- Delivers Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)
 - Completes nutrition-related assessment, diagnosis, intervention, monitoring, and evaluation
 - Estimates energy needs
 - Implements nutrition-related behavior modification therapy
 - Recommends oral supplements as needed
 - Calculates and adjusts enteral/parenteral nutrition needs
- Develops meal plans
- Designs nutrition education programs and materials

When You Might Need Them:

- To educate patients on dietary management of specific health conditions
- To provide general strategies for weight management
- To assess the need for oral supplements and suggest specific products
- To evaluate a commercially available diet or food products for safety and congruence with patient's health goals
- To assist with elimination diets
- To answer questions related to food access, SNAP, and low-cost healthy eating

IPE ROLES: SOCIAL WORKER (BSW OR MSW)

Education and Training

- Bachelor's degree in social work
 - Masters degree required for clinical social workers
- Field work (duration varies by program of study)
- State license
 - Includes licensing examination

Role and Skills

- Assesses individual and family psychosocial functioning
- Develops interventions
 - In collaboration with treatment team
- Educates and counsels patients
 - Including connection with local community resources
- Administers social service programs
- Manages crisis intervention

When You Might Need Them:

- To assess patient's mental well-being when psychology professional is unavailable
- To explain discharge paperwork and how to obtain prescriptions
- To identify appropriate support or socialization groups
- To connect patients with food or financial assistance programs
- To assist with medical equipment rental or purchase
- To initiate or continue end-of-life planning

IPE ROLES: PSYCHOLOGIST (PH.D. OR PSY.D.)

Education and Training

- Doctoral degree in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or other programs meeting credentialing requirements
- Pre-doctoral internship (one year, 2,000 hours)
- Licensure requires:
 - National examination
 - Supervised postdoctoral practice hours (2,000 in Alabama)
- Optional board certification

Role and Skills

- Assesses and diagnoses psychological, emotional, or behavioral issues
- Develops and adjusts treatment approach
 - Frequency
 - Duration
 - Intensity
- Implements psychotherapy with individuals, groups, or families
- Manages crisis intervention

When You Might Need Them:

- To develop and implement mental health screenings tailored to specific populations
- To lead health behavior change and self-management support programs
- To address substance abuse issues
- To engage families in mental health treatment
- To act as a practice facilitator or team leader

IPE ROLES: PHYSICAL THERAPIST (DPT)

Education and Training

- Doctoral degree in physical therapy
 - Three years of didactic and practical experience
 - Includes 7-12 months of supervised clinical experience in various settings
- State license
 - Includes licensing examination
- Optional residency and/or fellowship (1-2 years)
 - American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education
- Optional clinical specialization with national board examination
 - Geriatrics, neurology, sports medicine, etc.

Role and Skills

- Helps individuals maintain, restore, and improve movement, activity, and function
- Assesses and diagnoses physical condition and movement dysfunction
- Develops treatment plan:
 - Activity modification
 - Therapeutic exercise
 - Manual therapy
 - Biophysical agents
 - Integumentary repair
- Educates patients and families
 - Functional training in self-care
 - Motor functioning training
 - Airway clearance techniques

When You Might Need Them:

- To assess injury risk
- To address pain, muscle weakness, decreased range of motion, and/or postural distortion
- To develop exercise prescriptions
- To provide functional training for domestic, work, community, social, and civic life

IPE ROLES: NURSE (RN)

Education and Training

- Associate's or bachelor's degree in nursing
 - Includes clinical experience
- National licensing examination
 - Additional license requirements vary by state
- Required CPR certification

Role and Skills

- Coordinates care
- Administers medication and vaccinations
- Collaborates with healthcare team to develop plan of care
- Educates patients on:
 - Disease prevention and management
 - Treatment plans
 - Medication management
 - Procedure aftercare
- Collects and documents patient histories

When You Might Need Them:

- To triage patients
- To assess vital signs
- To provide documentation of assessments, changes in clinical status, and/or care provided
- To collect samples for laboratory analysis
- To provide chronic care management in between clinic visits
 - Follow-up for blood pressure, blood glucose, weight, etc.
- To educate and counsel patients
- To manage patient communication

IPE ROLES: NURSE PRACTITIONER (CRNP)

Education and Training

- Master's degree or doctoral degree with a defined specialty area
 - Following completion of requirements to become a RN
- State license
 - Includes licensing examination
- Required certification with AANPCB or ANCC
 - Includes national regulatory board exam

Role and Skills

- Completes physical exams
- Assesses and diagnoses medical conditions
 - Order, administer, and analyze diagnostic tests
 - Creates and adjusts existing care plans with treatment team
- Prescribes and manages prescription medications
- Performs procedures
- Educates patients on:
 - Disease prevention and management
 - Wellness

When You Might Need Them:

- To write prescriptions
- To develop and manage care plans
- To deliver follow-up care, acute care, or preventative medicine
- To provide chronic care management in between clinic visits
- To perform necessary procedures
- To educate and counsel patients

IPE ROLES: PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (P.A.)

Education and Training

- Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies
- PA National Certifying Exam (PANCE)
- State License
- Optional specialty or board certification (e.g. CV and thoracic surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry)

Role and Skills

- Practices medicine under the supervision of a licensed physician
 - May have multiple collaborating physicians
- Assesses and diagnoses medical conditions
- Develops a treatment plan that may include:
 - Prescribing medications
 - Performing minor procedures
 - Making necessary referrals
- Educates Patients
 - Preventative care
- May assist in surgeries

When You Might Need Them:

- To conduct routine preventative patient visits
- To perform minor procedures
- To order and/or analyze diagnostic tests
- To evaluate an existing treatment plan for acute or chronic conditions

IPE ROLES: CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT (CMA)

Education and Training

- High school diploma or GED
- Medical Assistant Training Program (9 months to a year)
- CMA certifying exam

Role and Skills

- Assists other healthcare professionals with patient care
- Performs administrative tasks
 - Answering phone calls
 - Scheduling appointments
 - Completing paperwork
- Performs injections and certain tests
- Educates patients

When You Might Need Them:

- To prepare patient for clinic visit as needed
 - Collect vital signs
 - Medication reconciliation
 - Vaccine administration
- To assist with procedures
- To perform some procedures
 - Ear lavage, wound dressing, etc.
- To communicate results, treatment instructions, and provider messages to patients
- To assist with paperwork
 - Prior authorizations, FMLA, etc.

IPE ROLES: DENTIST (DMD OR DDS)

Education and Training

- Doctorate degree in dental medicine or dental surgery
- National Board Dental Examination (NBDE)
- Most states require clinical exam to obtain license
- Optional specialty training (e.g. oral surgery, pediatric dentistry, orthodontics, etc.)

Role and Skills

- Diagnoses oral and dental diseases
- Monitors growth and development of teeth and jaw
- Develops treatment plans to maintain or restore patients' oral health
- Performs and interprets diagnostic tests and X-rays
- Performs surgical procedures on teeth, bone, and soft tissues of the oral cavity
- Educates patients on oral health and disease prevention

When You Might Need Them:

- To conduct routine dental exams
- To make referrals to specialists when indicated:
 - Periodontist
 - Oral surgeon
 - Orthodontist
- To treat resistant jaw pain
- To identify a chronic medical condition based on an oral exam
 - Evidence of reflux, diabetes, oral cancer, etc.