

Maximize Your Rotations

**ASHP's Student
Guide to
IPPEs, APPEs,
and
Beyond**

Mate M. Soric

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists®
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DEDICATION

First, to my wife and family for supporting me through the many nights and weekends of writing and editing.

Second, to my students for keeping me on my toes.

Lastly, to all of my preceptors for putting up with me when I was a student.

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PREFACE

After countless hours dedicated to lectures, study sessions, and exams, it is finally time to put your skills to the test in the real world. Regardless of the number of simulated patient experiences or multiple-choice questions you have successfully completed, no classroom activity can be a substitute for the hands-on training that the introductory and advanced pharmacy practice experiences (IPPEs and APPEs) can provide. Your rotations will likely be one of the first times you can use what you have learned in pharmacy school to make a significant impact on your patient's health. Often, this transition comes with some degree of difficulty. You will be required to make the leap from hypothetical situations and abstract concepts to addressing real drug-related problems in situations much more complex than anything you can find in a textbook.

Although rotations are vital to the development of the skills needed to practice pharmacy, there is little guidance available to pharmacy students to describe the best way to prepare, let alone how to make the most of these crucial experiences. The purpose of this text is to give pharmacy students a place to turn for all things experiential. It provides you with a glimpse of the general expectations and typical activities of your rotations before they begin, allowing for better preparation and performance. Part I, *The Essentials*, covers the broad skills needed to succeed on any type of rotation such as professionalism, literature evaluation, and case presentation skills. Part II, *The Particulars*, delves into the unique skills required to excel in each major type of rotation and is organized by rotation type. Part III, *Life After Rotations*, deals with the transition from student to pharmacist, with a focus on lifelong learning, getting your first job, and becoming a preceptor yourself.

To ensure that you are getting the best resource possible, an incredible team of pharmacy preceptors from across the country has come together to lend their expertise to the creation of this book. They have included cases that illustrate the common pitfalls that pharmacy students encounter, quotes from students and preceptors that provide first-hand perspectives, and the essential information that will get you the best results from your rotations.

In addition to all of these excellent pharmacy role models, I would like to thank Robin Coleman, Ruth Bloom, Johnna Hershey, and all of the other members of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists publishing team that provided invaluable guidance as we created this resource for pharmacy students. We all hope that you use the material we have provided to maximize your rotations and start your career off on the right foot.

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