Course Purpose and Description

The purpose of this course is to prepare students to understand and learn about professional practice opportunities in the evolving US health care financing and delivery system.

Managed care principles control or influence use of 90% of all prescriptions dispensed in the US. The PPACA, passed in 2010, continues the managed care principles, adds a layer of accountability, and is causing immutable changes in the practice of pharmacy. This evolving managed healthcare system offers numerous professional practice opportunities for pharmacists interested in merging business with pharmacy practice in a population health environment.

This course will actively learn about the following concepts:

• Role of managed prescription drug benefits in US healthcare programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, employer-based programs, Insurance Exchanges, and others.

• Professional practice opportunities of pharmacists with managed healthcare systems.

• Drug formulary management, including drug comparative analysis, role of cost-effectiveness analyses, and pharmacy benefit management strategies

• Role of clinical pharmacy and quality assurance programs in managed healthcare systems prescription drug programs.

• Pharmacy provisions of the PPACA (health care reform act), and future value-based insurance programs.

• Emerging importance of specialty pharmaceuticals, and strategies to optimize clinical and economic outcomes.

Students should review the proposed class topic schedule, below, for more information on specific topics covered.
Faculty
Robert P. Navarro, PharmD
Clinical Professor
University of Florida | College of Pharmacy
Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy
Online Master of Science in Pharmacy Program
Gainesville, FL 32610
Mobile: 919-621-0024 (preferred)

Office Hours
The instructor is available through a weekly virtual office meeting, or on an individual basis with prior request and scheduling.

Course Format and Class Meeting Times
One live, interactive, on-line 120-minute interactive class per week for eight weeks, that will result in 16 hours of faculty-student contact. This class employs active learning components that consists of out-of-class independent literature search and assigned reading, critical literature and data analysis to prepare for each class. Each The student active learning resources include print references, published papers, websites, pre-recorded lectures, commercial videos, live online discussion sessions, and guest expert appearance in synchronous class sessions.

Live on-line weekly classes will be from 7:00pm to 9:00pm Eastern, each Monday, from 11 May to 29 June 2015. Classes for conflicting US Holidays will be rescheduled from consultation with class students.

How this course Relates to the Learning Outcomes You Will Achieve in the PharmD Program
This course prepares the PharmD student to accomplish the following abilities and the related Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) upon graduation, and support specific Outcomes Domains included in the University of Florida College of Pharmacy PharmD Program Professional Outcomes:
1. **Outcome Domain 1**  
   *Provide Patient-centered Care* - Specifically: Design, implement, monitor, evaluate, and adjust pharmacy care plans that are patient-specific; address health literacy, cultural diversity, and behavioral psychosocial issues; are evidence-based and accomplished in collaboration with other health professionals.*

   Students will understand how patient empowerment and pharmaceutical care programs are incorporated in health plan pharmacy programs.

2. **Outcome Domain 2**  
   *Provide Population Health by promoting effective drug use and disease prevention/wellness.*

   Students will learn how managed care organizations use DUR to promote appropriate pharmaceutical use and adherence, use pharmacoeconomic principles in drug evaluations and drug formulary management, and design a pharmacy benefit to high-value pharmaceutical strategies (e.g., vaccination and immunization programs).

3. **Outcome Domain 3**  
   *Perform pharmacist responsibilities within the medication use system and relate to the larger health care systems to assure safe and quality patient care.*

   Students will learn how health plans incorporate clinical edits in drug dispensing adjudication rules through a point-of-service system and e-prescribing, and integrate pharmacy and medical claims and outcomes data to establish value-based insurance designs (VBID) and protocols and policies to promote and monitor appropriate drug prescribing and adherence.

4. **Outcome Domain 4**  
   *Communicate effectively with patients, caregivers, peer pharmacists, other pharmacy staff, and other health professionals.*

   Students will learn managed care terminology, understand interactions with under health care professionals and others in managed healthcare systems.

5. **Outcome Domain 5**  
   *Collaborate as a member of an inter-professional team when providing patient-centered care.*

   Students will learn how managed care pharmacists participate in multi-disciplinary teams and interact with other health care professionals and patients in the course of their professional responsibilities to develop and manage effect pharmacy benefit programs.
6. **Outcome Domain 6**  
*Use pharmacy knowledge in the care of patients and resolution of practice problems.*

Students will learn how pharmacists in managed care organizations use pharmacy benefit design and prescription drug benefit programs management strategies to develop effective pharmaceutical care programs that consider clinical and psychosocial considerations to achieve patient involvement in healthy lifestyle program and promote appropriate use and adherence with pharmaceuticals.

7. **Outcome Domain 7**  
*Demonstrate ethical behaviors and adhere to legal requirements in pharmacy practice.*

Students will understand how managed care pharmacists incorporate sound ethical, professional, legal, and business principles into their practices.

8. **Outcome Domain 8**  
*Solve complex practice problems (both patient-specific and general practice) using an evidence-based approach, other aspects of good clinical science, and informatics.*

Students will learn of evolving professional opportunities for pharmacists, recommended education training, and the responsibility for life-long learning for personal enhancement and career development.

**Course Objectives**  

**Cognitive Objectives**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the role of managed care in the United States healthcare system.
2. List the components and management objectives of a health plan prescription drug benefit program.
3. Describe the processes through which pharmacy benefits programs are marketed to customers, and how customers make purchase decisions.
4. Describe the structure and function of a pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) company, and impact on prescription drug use.
5. Outline a pharmacy distribution network that includes community, home delivery, and specialty pharmacies, and the relationship of pharmacies to health plans and PBMs.
6. Discuss the importance of specialty pharmaceuticals and specialty pharmacy practice on the evolution of prescription drug benefit management.

7. Describe various drug pricing metrics and how pharmaceutical contracting may reduce the cost of pharmacy benefits.

8. List the attributes and benefits of an effective pharmacy information system and e-prescribing to prescription drug use and pharmaceutical care.


10. Discuss the role of drug formulary systems in managed care, and the pharmacists role in developing and managing a drug formulary.

11. Describe pharmacy benefit member satisfaction programs.

12. Discuss the application of pharmacoeconomic principles in managed care drug formulary reviews.

13. Describe effective use of a Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee by a managed care organization.

14. Discuss the role of employer group plan sponsors in the provision of a managed care pharmacy benefit.

15. Describe the use of managed care principles within Medicare and Medicaid prescription drug benefit management programs.

16. Discuss methods for determining the value of pharmaceutical products and services within a managed care program.

17. Describe the attributes of a successful Medication Therapy Management program within a managed care system.

18. Discuss how health care reform may influence the evolution of managed prescription drug programs.

19. Describe various roles of pharmacists in managed care pharmacy systems, and the impact of managed prescription drug benefits on the pharmacy practice.

Active Learning Requirements

- Critical analysis of assigned reading resources and videos.
- Problem solving exercises posted on discussion board.
- Assessment of case studies in live classes.
• Assignments through which students must apply managed care principles.
• Individual Readiness Assessments Quiz begin each class

Pre-Requisite Knowledge and Skills
None.

Textbooks
No text is required. Instructor shall distribute copies of several chapters of the optional textbook (listed below) supplemented with topical papers, articles, videotapes, and reports.

Optional text: Robert Navarro, Managed Care Pharmacy Practice (2nd Ed), Jones & Bartlett, 2009. ISBN 978-0-7637-3240-0 Also available as an Kindle Ebook (http://www.amazon.com/Managed-Care-Pharmacy-Practice-ebook/dp/B005T4ULQ0/

The instructor will provide PDF copies of relevant chapters discussed in the course.

Student Evaluation, Evaluation Methods, and Grading

Basis of Grading
The student’s final rotation grade will be based upon the following rubric:

Assessment Item Percentage of Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly class participation</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly individual readiness assessment</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra credit research paper*</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Discuss with instructor
Quiz/Exam Policy
Inquiries regarding quizzes and exams should be directed to the course coordinator within a week following the assessment.

Grading Scale
95-100 = A
90-94 = A-
86-89 = B+
83-85 = B
80-82 = B-
76-79 = C+
73-75 = C
70-72 = C-
66-69 = D+
63-68 = D
60-62 = D-
<60 = E

Make-up Quiz/Exam Policy
Students who are excused from a quiz or exam will not be required to make up that assessment and their final grade will be calculated without consideration of the missed assessment. Students who are not excused from a missed quiz or exam will receive a grade of zero on that missed assessment. Any student who misses quizzes and/or exams of a sufficient number that indicate the student has not completed enough coursework to achieve the objectives of the course will be given an incomplete (I) grade for the course.

Class Attendance Policy
Students must attend all online classes and must post a specific number (to be assigned weekly) of responsive and original comments to the online discussion board. Each unexcused absence (prior to scheduled class) will result in 0.00 points for one weekly quiz.

Policy on Old Quizzes and Assignments
All quizzes and exams will be posted, with answers, to the course discussion board, and these materials may be shared with anyone who wishes to have them.
General College of Pharmacy Course Policies

The College of Pharmacy has a website that lists course policies that are common to all courses. This website covers the following:

1. University Grading Policies
2. Academic Integrity Policy
3. How to request learning accommodations
4. Faculty and course evaluations
5. Student expectations in class
6. Discussion board policy
7. Email communications
8. Religious holidays
9. Counseling & student health

How to access services for student success

Please see the following URL for this information:

Complaints

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit:
http://www.distancelearning.ufl.edu/student-complaints to submit a complaint.

Other Course Information

Appendix A includes directors for contacting faculty & course faculty list

Course Structure & Outline

Course Structure and Outline

This course is designed around eight modules, out-of-class active learning, completion of assigned readings, projects, and research, and participation in interactive weekly class discussions
**Week 1 Module: Fundamental principles of managed care.**

Principles of managed care; the flow of money among trading partners; and risk-sharing concepts; basic structure, process, and function of managed health care organizations; role of pharmacists and the pharmacy department; pharmacy distribution systems and contracting.

**Week 2 Module: Managed care prescription drug benefit programs.**

Structure, process, and function of pharmacy departments within a health plan; various roles of pharmacists; high-deductible health plans; consumer-directed health care); program cost and quality of care management objectives and outcomes measurement; pharmaceutical distribution networks (e.g., community; mail, specialty; OTC drug use and self-care; and marketing pharmacy benefits.

**Week 3 Module: Drug evaluation, clinical and economic comparisons, and P & T Committee process.**

Clinical, economic, and humanistic outcomes principles use in drug evaluation, review, and formulary coverage; use of pharmacoeconomic data in developing a value-based drug formulary; interaction of benefit design and drug formulary performance; outcomes research in managed care.

**Week 4 Module: Drug formulary and specialty drug management.**

Role, structure, and function and of dynamic drug formulary management program; open vs. closed drug formularies; formulary development and management principles and strategies; role of formularies in achieve cost and quality of care objectives; medical and pharmacy benefit management of specialty pharmaceuticals; potential role of biosimilars.

**Week 5 Module: Role of the pharmaceutical companies, contracting; managing pharmacy program performance.**

Cost components of a managed prescription drug program; manufacturer contracting; net drug price comparison; pricing metrics; role of rebates, discounts, and cost-share offset coupons on drug costs and patient adherence; performance-based and risk-share contracting; pharmacy program performance; transfer of rebate value.
**Week 6 Module: Medication therapy management (MTM), disease and care management, and quality programs.**

Disease and care management opportunities for pharmacists; program description and outcomes management; Medicare MTM programs; drug reconciliation.

**Week 7 Module: Medicare and Medicaid pharmacy programs.**

Development and evolution of CMS Medicare and state Medicaid programs; impact of the PPACA on public and government programs; pharmacy benefit structure and function; adherence, cost and quality of care management strategies; growth and professional opportunities; Medicare MTM programs.

**Week 8 Module: Health care reform and accountable care.**

Role and opportunities through recent health care reform policies (e.g., MMA, ARRA, PPACA); Medicare ACOs; novel financial risk-sharing strategies; insurance exchanges; free-market health insurance evolution into accountable care; emerging pharmacist opportunities.

**Appendix A: Directions for Contacting Faculty & Course Faculty List**

The course coordinator, Robert Navarro, PharmD, may be contacted at any time with any question or concern about the course. Contact the course coordinator at mnavarro@cop.ufl.edu or mobile/text 919-621-0024.