

Requirements for APPE Case Presentations

The goal of the case conference is to develop verbal and written skills in presenting a clinical case. An actual case encountered during the rotation should be the subject of the presentation. Through discussion with the preceptor, a topic or focus for the discussion of the case will be chosen (i.e., discussion of a particular disease state or aspect of the case). The presentation consists of an organized account of the patient's history and physical, hospital course, critique of the patient's pharmacotherapy, and the topic discussion. It is expected that the student will conduct a thorough search of the **primary, secondary, and tertiary literature** concerning the topic to educate the audience (generally the other student(s) and the preceptor(s); may also include pharmacy staff or physicians).

It is important to note that even though the case will primarily focus on the chosen topic, pharmacy students are responsible for all aspects of the patient's care (disease state/drug therapy). Students should be able to identify the indication for each medication used during the patient's course and to offer critique of that therapy (i.e., proper selection, dosing, duration, etc.) **This skill is critical to preparing students for the NAPLEX exam, as they will be asked to identify problems with a patient's pharmacotherapy on this exam.**

The student presenting the case is to assemble a handout for the presentation (specifics of the format and length of the handout should be discussed with your preceptor), including pertinent materials and proper reference list.

The following points should be discussed/addressed in the presentation:

1. Patient Case Presentation
 - a. Chief complaint (why patient came to the hospital)
 - b. History of present illness
 - c. Past medical history
 - d. Medications on admission
 - e. Drug allergies
 - f. Family/social history (if relevant)
 - g. Physical exam and review of systems
 - h. Problem list (assessment and plan)
 - i. Hospital Course
 - j. Baseline labs and pertinent labs throughout hospital course (labs which should be monitored based on patient's disease state(s) and medications)
 - k. Review hospital course (summarize days on which important therapeutic interventions were made, changes in patient status occurred)
 - l. Include patient's drug therapy throughout their course and be able to discuss side effects, drug interactions, and pertinent labs associated with this therapy.
2. Overview and discussion of disease state
 - a. Epidemiology of the disease
 - b. Etiology of the disease
 - c. Pathophysiology of the disease

- d. Clinical presentation
 - e. Diagnosis
 - f. Treatment guidelines and alternatives
 - g. Discussion of treatment options, including drugs of choice, alternatives, monitoring, and side effects.
3. Discussion of Patient's therapy and disease state
- a. Comparison with "classic case"
 - b. Critique of drug therapy
 - c. Discussion of efficacy parameters
 - d. Monitoring of adverse effects
4. References

All references should follow the Uniform Requirements as described in the New England Journal of Medicine (N Engl J Med 1997;336:309-315).