

DATE: March 16, 2018

TO: Professor Jennifer Klenk

FROM: Yeimi Chavez

SUBJECT: Mentor Interview

I interviewed Nate Crossman, a Clinical Pharmacist, to learn about the Education/Specializing, Work Environment, and the Career Benefits of a healthcare profession and overall a better understanding of a career in the health department. The interview was conducted at the Intermountain Health Care in Murray where it was most convenient for him, since he works there. Learning about the role a Clinical Pharmacist plays in a patient diagnostic intrigued me, especially hearing Mr. Crossman talk so passionately about his career.

Education / Specializing

To become a Clinical Pharmacist, you are required to have a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree, which usually take 4 years to finish. Most of the courses to acquire your Doctor of Pharmacy degree are science related. Following the completion of the Pharm.D. program, pharmacists seeking an advanced position, such as a clinical pharmacy or research job, may need to complete a 1- to 2-year residency, which is optional. Becoming members of ASHP (American Society of Health-System Pharmacists) or MDL (Medical Diagnostic Laboratories) help you stay on top of your education.

Some advice that Mr. Crossman offered to anyone interested in this career is to maximize your training, do your fair share of research beforehand, get involved in organizations and to not forget to do community service.

Work Environment

Mr. Crossman believes that being a Clinical Pharmacist is a career that involves constant learning, it was the main reason on why he chose the career. Being a Clinical Pharmacist for 20+ years now, Mr. Crossman shared that no two days are the same, new discoveries are constantly thrown at you, you'll always have something to do.

Clinical Pharmacist work directly with patient care, they are involved in their patients' medical history and current tests. They also work along doctors, radiologist, nurses and other staff to give the best diagnostic to their patients. A huge percentage of Clinical Pharmacists time is spent working along with other coworkers. Tasks of a Clinical Pharmacist do not begin to compare to those of a Retail Pharmacist. A typical day starts at 7'oclock in the morning, one works nine

hours; possibly more. It's a demanding career, that consists of long hours, extra shifts and if in a higher position will be on call. There really is no such thing as a slow day as a Clinical Pharmacist, the higher position you specialize in the more responsibility you'll have.

Career Benefits

After working as a Clinical Pharmacist for so long, there are opportunities that open to you. Mr. Crossman talked about the opportunity to work on research, research of his own during the work day. He recently traveled to Hawaii and was heading to Chicago for conferences, all expenses paid by the hospital. Working with residents, getting involved in trade organizations, giving back to your community and helping with career interviews, are things Mr. Crossman views as advantages by being in this career.