Pharmacy’s Mission in a Changing World: A Christian Perspective

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Disclaimer
I do not have a vested interest in or affiliation with any corporate organization offering financial support or grant monies for this continuing education program, or any affiliation with an organization whose philosophy could potentially bias my presentation.

Objectives
• Describe what is changing in the world.
• Describe what is changing in pharmacy’s mission.
• Describe pharmacy’s mission.
• Describe how a Christian pharmacist may perform pharmacy’s mission in a changing world.
• Develop a plan to practice as a Christian pharmacist in the changing world.

Changes in the World

Small Group Activity #1
• Describe what is changing in the world.

Large Group Activity #1
• Communicate:
  – Description of what is changing in the world.
Changes in the World
• Political
  – Military drawdowns / increases
  – Elections
  – Cold War II?
  – Terrorism – foreign and domestic
  – Rise / Fall of countries

• Financial
  – Uncertainty / stress
  – Inflation / Deflation
  – Crash?
  – Recession
  – Unemployment (pharmacists?)
  – Taxes
  – Social (in)Security
  – Healthcare
  – Tax-exempt organizations
  – Debt: personal and government

• Technology
  – Collaborations
  – Connections
  – Efficiencies
  – Accuracy
  – Information
  – Opportunities (increase, decrease)
  – 25% of Millennials identify technology as their generation’s defining trait

• Relationships
  – From pen pal to FaceTime
  – Greatly influenced by technology
    – Different communication methods
  – Top reason for Millennials remaining in church? Meaningful Relationships
    – 70% of those who quit church didn’t have a close church adult friendship
    – 90% of those who quit church didn’t have a church mentor

• Medical
  – “Turf Wars”
    – Provider status
    – Scope of Practice
  – New Treatments and Procedures
  – Specialty Drugs
  – Reimbursements
  – ACA

• Education
  – “Degree Creep” – BS to PharmD (nursing, PT)
  – Specialization – from primary care to numerous specialists (opportunity for other “providers”)
  – Pharmacy Residencies (1 year, 2 year)
  – Pharmacy Fellowships
  – Certifications (BCPS, CGP, etc)
  – Opportunities (online, hybrid)
  – Delivery methods (active learning)
Changes in the World

- Spiritual
  - Tolerance (Intolerance)
  - “spirituality” verses “Christianity”
  - Increased pressure / regulations against Christianity and Christian healthcare
    - Hobby Lobby
    - Conestoga Wood Specialties
    - Healthcare Provider’s Right of Conscience

Changes in the World

- Spiritual
  - Top reason #2 for Millennials remaining in church? Cultural Discernment
    - Applying Biblical principles to everyday situations in today’s culture
    - Living a Sunday through Saturday faith rather than Sunday only
    - Active Millennials are “more than twice as likely to say they “learned about how Christians can positively contribute to society” compared to those who drop out (46% versus 20%).”
    - Active Millennials are “nearly four times more likely to say they “better understand my purpose in life through church” (45% versus 12%).”

  - Top reason #4 for Millennials remaining in church? Vocational Discipleship
    - “teach a more potent theology of vocation, or calling”
    - Active Millennials are “three times more likely than dropouts to say they learned to view their gifts and passions as part of God’s calling (45% versus 17%).”
    - Active Millennials are “four times more likely to have learned at church “how the Bible applies to my field or career interests (29% versus 7%).”

Changes in Pharmacy’s Mission

Small Group Activity #2

- Describe what is changing in pharmacy’s mission.

Large Group Activity #2

- Communicate:
  - Description of what is changing in pharmacy’s mission.
Changes in Pharmacy’s Mission

• Changing Code of Ethics
  – 1852
    • Physician referral for medical advice


• Changing Code of Ethics
  – 1922
    • Primary service = “handling, sale, compounding and dispensing of medical substances” (product oriented)
    • Responsible for the “physical and moral well-being of society” (emphasis added)
    • Safety over profit is emphasized
    • Substitution prohibited without physician approval
    • No auxiliary labels
    • No counselling


• Changing Code of Ethics
  – 1969
    • “should not agree to practice under terms or conditions which tend to interfere with or impair the proper exercise of his professional judgment and skill, which tend to cause a deterioration of the quality of his service or which require him to consent to unethical conduct.” (underlining added)


• Changing Code of Ethics
  – 1981
    • “provide information to patients regarding professional services truthfully, accurately, and fully and should avoid misleading patients regarding the nature, cost, or value of these professional services.”


• Changing Code of Ethics
  – 1994
    • “Pharmacists are health professionals who assist individuals in making the best use of medications.
      - I. A pharmacist respects the covenantal relationship between the patient and pharmacist.
      - II. A pharmacist promotes the good of every patient in a caring, compassionate, and confidential manner.
      - III. A pharmacist respects the autonomy and dignity of each patient.
      - IV. A pharmacist acts with honesty and integrity in professional relationships.
    • “Pharmacists are health professionals who assist individuals in making the best use of medications.
      - V. A pharmacist maintains professional competence.
      - VI. A pharmacist respects the values and abilities of colleagues and other health professionals.
      - VII. A pharmacist serves individual, community, and societal needs.
      - VIII. A pharmacist seeks justice in the distribution of health resources.” (explanation of components omitted due to space)

Changes in Pharmacy’s Mission

- Expanding Opportunities
  - Specialty Areas
  - Specialty Populations
    - Pediatric, Geriatric
  - Disease State Specialties
    - Asthma, Diabetes, Anticoagulation, HTN, Lipid
  - Specialty Setting
    - Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH)
    - MTM – pharmacy practice without walls and pill’s?

Large Group Activity #3

- Communicate:
  - Description of pharmacy’s mission.

Pharmacy’s Mission

Emphasis Shift: From Product to Service

- “Contemporary pharmacy practice reflects an evolving paradigm from one in which the pharmacist primarily supervises medication distribution and counsels patients, to a more expanded and team-based clinical role providing patient-centered medication therapy management, health improvement, and disease prevention services.”

- WHAT ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS?


Small Group Activity #3

- Describe pharmacy’s mission.

Christian Pharmacist Performing Pharmacy’s Mission
Small Group Activity #4

- Describe how a Christian pharmacist may perform pharmacy's mission in a changing world.

Large Group Activity #4

- Communicate:
  - Description of how a Christian pharmacist may perform pharmacy's mission in a changing world.

Christian Pharmacist Performing Pharmacy’s Mission

- 2a. Represent Christ to others: Ambassador
  - “5:17 So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; what is old has passed away - look, what is new has come! 5:16 And all these things are from God who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and who has given us the ministry of reconciliation. 5:18 In other words, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting people’s trespasses against them, and he has given us the message of reconciliation. Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His plea through us. We plead with you on Christ’s behalf, ‘Be reconciled to God.’ 5:21 God made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we would become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

- 2b. Represent Christ to others: Ambassador
  - “6:10 Finally, be strengthened in the Lord and in the strength of his power. 6:11 Clothe yourselves with the full armor of God so that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. 6:13 For this reason, take up the full armor of God so that you may be able to stand your ground on the evil day, and having done everything, to stand. 6:14 Stand firm therefore, by fastening the belt of truth around your waist, by putting on the breastplate of righteousness, 6:15 by fitting your feet with the preparation that comes from the good news of peace, 6:16 in addition to all this, by taking up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 6:18 With every prayer and petition, pray at all times in the Spirit, and to this end be alert, with all perseverance and requests for all the saints. 6:19 Pray for me also, that I may be given the message when I begin to speak – that I may confidently make known the mystery of the gospel, 6:20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may be able to speak boldly as I ought to speak.” (Ephesians 6:10-20)

Christian Pharmacist Performing Pharmacy’s Mission

- 3. Live a “Work is Worship” Lifestyle

  1. Be a Christian
     - A. Problem: We are not in a right relationship with God
       - “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)
       - “For the payoff of sin is death” (Romans 6:23a)
     - B. Solution: God’s loving and gracious gift of Jesus Christ
       - “But God demonstrates His own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8)
       - “but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23b)
     - C. Application: Receive God’s grace by trusting Jesus Christ
       - “For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)
Christian Pharmacist Performing Pharmacy’s Mission

4. Trade “Work for Missions” (part 1)

4. Trade “Work for Missions” (part 2)

Personal Christian Pharmacist’s Plan

Personal Activity #1

5. Live a Christian lifestyle in the changing areas in the world. In other words:

“So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” (1 Cor. 10:31)

- Political
  - Pray for leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-8)
  - Enter politics?
- Financial: manage finances Biblically
- Technology: use it for God’s kingdom
- Relationships: love one another (John 13:34-35)
- Medical: wise counsel
- Education: get it and use it for God’s glory
- Spiritual
  - Live a life in dependence upon Christ
  - Be an ambassador

- Prayerfully design a plan to incorporate 3 actions / attitudes to perform pharmacy’s mission in a changing world as a Christian pharmacist.
Learning Assessment Questions

1. The following areas represent changes in the world (objective 1):
   - A. Political
   - B. Financial
   - C. Technology
   - D. Relationships
   - E. Medical
   - F. Education
   - G. Spiritual
   - H. All of the above

Learning Assessment Questions

2. Changes in pharmacy’s mission may be followed by examining the historical Code of Ethics for Pharmacists (objective 2).
   - A. True
   - B. False

Learning Assessment Questions

3. Pharmacy’s mission is moving towards providing more patient services (objective 3).
   - A. True
   - B. False

Learning Assessment Questions

4. A Christian pharmacist may perform pharmacy’s mission by (objective 4):
   - A. Be a Christian
   - B. Represent Christ to others
   - C. Live a “Work is Worship” lifestyle
   - D. Trade “Work for Missions” lifestyle
   - E. All of the above

Learning Assessment Questions

5. State one component of your plan to perform pharmacy’s mission in a changing world as a Christian pharmacist (objective 5).
Learning Assessment Answers

1. H
2. A
3. A
4. E

Further Resources

1. NET Bible (https://net.bible.org/#/bible/Matthew+1:1)
2. Blue Fish TV (http://www.bluefishtv.com/Home)
3. Barna (https://www.barna.org/)
4. APHa (http://www.pharmacist.com/)
5. CPFI (http://www.cpfi.org/)

Thank You!