DEVELOPMENT OF A PHARMACY COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE AGREEMENT TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND MANAGEMENT OF PRESCRIBING IN A RENAL TRANSPLANT CLINIC

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BACKGROUND
Post-transplant patients require complex medication regimens to ensure the survival of the transplanted organ and patient overall well-being. These regimens are frequently adjusted, initiated, or discontinued after transplantation. Pharmacists integrated in transplant clinics can optimize patients’ post-transplant medication use and safety.1

OBJECTIVE
Assess the impact of a Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreement (CPPA) between pharmacists and physicians on Rx volume, clinic workload, and safety outcomes.

METHODS
Retrospective cohort comparing the proportion of immunosuppressant prescriptions authorized by each clinician type (Pharmacist, Nurse, Physician) across three 7-month intervals.

RESULTS
• Reviewed 2,349 prescriptions during study time frame
• 319 patients included in final results
• Immunosuppressant refills authorized by pharmacist increased to 85% once CPPA in place
• Pharmacy staff increased to 24 team members
• Total monthly prescription count for renal transplant patients increased from 1,841 in July 2015 to 4,749 in December 2018

CONCLUSION
This streamlined process from prescribing to dispensing prescriptions ensures close monitoring of post-transplant patients, while allowing physicians and nurses to dedicate more time to focus on patient care.

DEVELOPMENT OF CPPA
7/2014
• TN Pharmacists Association & TN Medical Association finalized legislation approving CPPAs

7/2015
• Vanderbilt Renal Transplant Clinic & Vanderbilt Transplant Pharmacy developed a CPPA

12/2015
• Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee and VUMC Medical Board approved proposed CPPA

11/2016
• VUMC legal department defined the CPPAs and auditing requirements

2/2017
• TN Board of Pharmacy and the TN State Attorney General approved CPPA

3/2017
• CPPA initiated in Renal Transplant Clinic

METHODS
Implementing a CPPA resulted in:
• This streamlined process from prescribing to dispensing prescriptions ensures close monitoring of post-transplant patients, while allowing physicians and nurses to dedicate more time to focus on patient care.

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