

Abstract

Introduction: As the pharmaceutical field becomes more saturated, more pharmacy students are interested in non-traditional pharmacy roles such as those in the pharmaceutical industry. As more opportunities to pursue non-traditional pharmacy roles arise, it becomes more pertinent that student pharmacists have the opportunity to be exposed to such roles. One way that pharmacy students can gain exposure to non-traditional industry roles is through Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE) and Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) rotations.

Methods: An online survey was sent to 138 Pharmacy Directors of Experiential Education.

Results: 28 surveys were completed. 79% (22) of respondents represented schools that offer and IPPE or APPE with an industry focus, 21% (6) of respondents do not. Of the respondents that do not offer industry-focused IPPE or APPE, 100% (6) claim that their students have shown interest in industry rotations and/or career paths. The most perceived barrier to offering students a pharma industry rotation was a lack of industry connections.

What did you learn: How to effectively make a Qualtrics survey and word survey questions?

Discussion: Future studies related to this topic may want to consider a more active method of survey collection such as phone calls rather than emails. This modification to the survey solution would be more time-consuming but is likely to garner more responses.

Conclusion: This project impacts the pharmacy profession as it attempts to identify common barriers to pharmacy schools offering industry rotations.