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.

Study Time Intervals

- Time 1: 11/1/14 - 5/31/15
- Time 2: 12/1/15 - 6/30/16
- Time 3: 4/1/17 - 10/31/17

Inclusion
- Adult patients 18+ years old
- Post renal transplant followed by Renal Transplant Clinic
- One or more immunosuppressant prescriptions authorized in all three time intervals

Exclusion
- Failed renal transplant
- Discharged from Renal Transplant Clinic
- Re-transplanted between 11/1/14 - 10/31/17

Measures
- Number of safety incidents as measured by Veritas quarterly reports
- Number of pharmacy staff members
- Number of immunosuppressant prescription refills authorized
- Total prescriptions filled including non-immunosuppressants for renal transplant patients

RESULTS

- Immunosuppressant Prescription Refills by Authorizer Type
- Increased prescription volume
- Reduced physician and nurse burden
- Pharmacy growth from 8 to 24 team members
- No safety concerns reported in seven quarterly reviews

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.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF CPPA
VUMC is actively working to initiate CPPAs in other clinics across Vanderbilt. Our goal is to continue to expand services provided by pharmacists with a CPPA.

REFERENCES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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