



Megan Rees

Clinical Oncology Pharmacist/ Residency Program Director, Trellis Rx/ Summa Health Specialty Pharmacy

Nominated by Megan Rees, Clinical Oncology Pharmacist/ Residency Program Director, Trellis Rx/ Summa Health Specialty Pharmacy

Megan is a pharmacist who truly cares about her patients and their outcomes. She currently services 5 clinics with 14 providers that focus on hematology and oncology disease states with an average of 450 patients on specialty medications. Megan's favorite part of her position is the opportunity to build relationships with patients and caregivers during their specialty journey. Megan regularly checks in on her patients every 1-3 months throughout their oncology journey to assess for tolerance and barriers to care and currently has a 95% PDC value for adherence. The prior authorization turn-around time has decreased from 9.3 days to 1.2 days after the first 3 months of Megan's time in her clinic, which has greatly improved patients' script to mouth time. She was recognized as one of the top 3 pharmacists in the company for her performance based upon the number of patient counsels, lab reviews, interventions, and drug utilization reviews. Furthermore, her cost avoidance interventions have saved the health system over \$750,000 which was recently found in a study conducted by Trellis Rx.

Since her time with Trellis Rx, Megan has completed over 1800 clinical interventions that were accepted by patients and providers. She provides the most effective treatment to her patients by staying up to date with NCCN guidelines and providing regular updates to her providers. Last year she conducted a linkage to care initiative after a new treatment was approved for early breast cancer with a high risk of recurrence. She proactively identified patients who were appropriate for this groundbreaking treatment and worked with her providers to get patients started on treatment who otherwise had no options for prevention of recurrence. Megan's dedication and passion for her patients and providers is shown by her consistent NPS score of 10/10 each year from both patients and providers.

Megan goes above and beyond to regularly seek and promote continuing education opportunities for pharmacists, residents and students. Megan has done 6 specialty pharmacy CE sessions for pharmacy times continuing education over the last 3 years, which have reached over 500 pharmacists during each session. Additionally, she has presented 2 specialty pharmacy pearls at ASHP midyear and summer meetings. She is a board-certified specialty pharmacist and also a board-certified ambulatory care pharmacist and regularly seeks continuing education respective to these areas. Megan holds her CSP certification in high regards as it has greatly advanced her career and her understanding of all specialty areas. Additionally, Megan served as a reviewer for the hematology/ oncology section of the ASHP Specialty Pharmacy Certificate that was launched in the spring of 2023. Megan was nominated for this based off her involvement with ASHP Educational Steering Committee (ESC) within the Section of Specialty Pharmacy. As chair of the ESC this year, Megan was instrumental in the development of the clinical roundtable series for the section of specialty pharmacy where they have held 5 educational sessions for specialty pharmacists. Additionally, the ESC has added on a Specialty Pharmacy Gems virtual webinar where specialty pharmacy residents now have a platform to share their research findings



throughout their residency year. Her previous time spent with the ESC as a Vice Chair in 2022 and on the education subcommittee in years prior. Upon her arrival at Trellis Rx in 2019, Megan created and implemented the education committee across the company and currently serves as the Chair of this committee. The Trellis Rx Education Committee focuses on education of students, residents, technicians and pharmacists across the nation. As you can see, Megan is a huge advocate for enhancing learning for both pharmacist, residents, technicians and students in the specialty space.

Megan is extremely dedicated to advancing and elevating the practice of specialty pharmacy. Upon starting her career, Megan realized that there were not enough pharmacy residencies in the country that had a focus on specialty pharmacy. Megan and her colleague Casey ross worked endlessly to develop two residency programs with a strong focus on specialty pharmacy at Trellis Rx. The residency program at Trellis Rx @ Summa Health is currently enrolling their third resident since 2020 and Megan serves as the residency program director. This residency program allows residents to hone in on their passion of specialty pharmacy and gives them the opportunity to explore various disease states such as hematology, oncology, neurology, cardiology, autoimmune, dermatology, endocrinology, pulmonology, and infectious disease as well as complete rotations in administration, leadership, research, and professional development. Megan is currently working with Trellis Rx to expand this program to multiple Trellis Rx sites across the country to grow and elevate the practice of specialty pharmacy.

Additionally, Megan has continued to be heavily involved in SASP and will be moderating the careers in specialty pharmacy session at NASP this year. Megan is looking forward to another year educating pharmacy students on the various opportunities in specialty pharmacy and serving as a mentor within this space.

Megan is a huge advocate for the specialty pharmacy industry and you can see she is clearly passionate about spreading awareness to the community. Megan previously served as the Ohio Pharmacist Association New Practitioner Chair and Vice Chair from the years 2020-2022. During her time with the organization, Megan was able to speak to many pharmacy students about the job opportunities within specialty pharmacy and mentored 4 students to assist in their career journey. In terms of community, Megan stays involved in both the pancreatic cancer annual walk as well as the multiple sclerosis walk which she dedicates to both her family members and her patients. Megan continues to think of ways to improve the wellbeing of her community and is currently working on social media platforms to spread awareness around patient assistance programs for patients on specialty medications. She plans to create more videos in the future with additional specialty pharmacy topics. As you can see, she is committed to making Ohio and her workplace of Akron a better place with more awareness for specialty disease states and the resources available to specialty pharmacy patients. Megan has dedicated her entire career to specialty pharmacy. Her father passed away from pancreatic cancer and her sibling currently lives with multiple sclerosis. Her passion comes from wanting to help patients like her family and providing them with the "family pharmacist" type interactions. She wants her patients to feel like family and know that they have someone fighting the fight with them. Winning this award, would be an absolute dream come true and something that she has been working towards to make her father proud since his death in 2018.