

Taylor Blackburn

Independent Study & Mentorship

Speice 2A

October 21, 2016

Interview Assessment

Name of Professional: Erin Thompson

Profession: Compounding District Manager Pharmacist

Company Name: Drug Crafters

Date of Interview: September 28, 2016

My second interview was conducted with Erin Thompson. Going into the interview, I set a couple of goals: to obtain an understanding about her job at Drug Crafters and see what lead to her interest in pharmacy as a career. I wanted to discover whether her career dealt with the administration of drugs to patients within the hospital or if it was an addition to the Medical City Hospital as a retail location for prescribed drugs. I hoped to gain a different perspective as my first interview was from the day-to-day work life of a retail pharmacist and Ms. Thompson's job is connected to activities that an inpatient pharmacist pursues.

It was unexpected to hear that Ms. Thompson has an extensive background in pharmacy with her education, pre-pharmacy programs, and various job titles. Based on the interview, I was able to discern the difference between the different fields that pharmacy had due to the fact that my interviewee was a pharmacy technician, a retail pharmacist, and is now in the clinical field. This was beneficial to me as she was able to list the advantages and drawbacks to each. One of my goals in the future as I start my career is to be able to balance work and family life. She

recommended clinical as it has more normal hours and she is able to use her education that she learned in pharmacy school. One drawback to clinical pharmacy compared with retail is the decreased patient consultation and interaction, which is one of the best ways to physically see the biggest reward of the medical field: helping people become healthier. While she still enjoys being behind the scenes as a compounding pharmacist, retail reaps the most benefits of seeing the change that is being made in people's lives. For me, that is one of the most appealing aspects to jobs in healthcare, and specifically in pharmacy, as all the years schooling and education are being used to accurately help patients improve their lifestyle and advance modern medication.

As the pharmacy manager in her location, she appreciates the ability to learn through trial and error and discover what aspects work best for her lifestyle and how she coordinates her time with other activities. The importance of building up to be a manager requires being able to stand out amongst the crowd and a passionate and driven mindset that is continually focused on improving. In my potential future as a pharmacist, I hope to use my educational background and set personality skills to discern which field I want to approach.

In order to prepare for the next interview in ISM, I will ask the next interviewee more questions pertaining to how they first were introduced to their career and what steps they followed to reach their goals. The interview with Ms. Thompson has allowed me to see that I want to direct my research into the compounding of drugs and the complexity that it requires. It has opened my eyes to the various aspects of chemical studies and microbiology to truly understand the processing and manufacturing of various medications. I am excited to expand on my goals of professionalism and knowledge in the upcoming interviews and am thankful for the advice that I was given from Ms. Thompson.

ISM Interview Notes- Erin Thompson

Retail: busy, doctor orders, consultation with patients, and interaction with customers

- priority: 8-10 shifts

Clinical: hospital with more normal work hours

- round with doctors

- specialized and clinical rotations

- with patients for anticoag

Compounding: one-on-one with doctors and lab work

She knows the medical field and considers herself as a “middle man”

Pharmacy techs are clerks and she interned for 4 years during high school

She attended 6 years of pharmacy school

Found retail too difficult to balance work and family life

One of the most rewarding aspects of her job is helping those who are sick or babies

She is in charge of the normal staff pharmacists and attains more responsibility

As district manager, she is considered “corporate” and deals with numbers