



CPS Member Spotlight

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What is your favorite thing about being a CPS member?

My favorite things about being a CPS member is the networking opportunities and staying up to date on all things pharmacy. I joined CPS as a PGY2 resident new to Colorado. CPS was a great opportunity to meet other pharmacists in the area at different health systems and different practice areas. I have met and worked with many different pharmacists I may have missed the opportunity to collaborate with otherwise. CPS also does a great job keeping members up to date on legislation surrounding pharmacy and healthcare, which in turn I feel helps pharmacists advocate for the profession.

How did you get introduced to the world of pharmacy?

I got introduced to the world of pharmacy through a knack for chemistry. As a college freshman, I knew I wanted to go into something healthcare related, but was unsure of the direction. My second semester, I took the dreaded required chemistry class for healthcare majors and loved it. My professors suggested exploring the School of Pharmacy. After that, I began seeking opportunities to shadow pharmacists in different practice areas. I was so impressed by the role of pharmacists, particularly in rural Montana where access to healthcare providers is limited, and knew it was the direction I wanted to go with my career.

How did you get to where you are in your career?

I feel that I got to where I am in my career through my many mentors and residency training. Shadowing in an anticoagulation clinic as a second year pharmacy student was a defining moment that I wanted to practice pharmacy in an ambulatory care setting. I pursued a PGY1 in community practice at the University of Utah to continue working in this setting. It was my PGY1 residency program director who encouraged me to seek further training in a PGY2, which is how I ended up in Denver, as a PGY2 resident at Kaiser Permanente. I was lucky enough to stay on with Kaiser as a clinical pharmacy specialist in anticoagulation and anemia services, which has been a great fit!

What do you enjoy about being a pharmacist or pharmacy technician?

My favorite part of being a pharmacist are the challenging cases and patient relationships. Due to ever changing guidelines, new medications, and new indications for existing medications, there is rarely a dull moment. Many of the patient's that come through our service are complicated and require a significant amount of time and close follow up. These include patients with anemia related to chronic disease or chemotherapy, pregnant women with histories of thromboembolic events, or complicated anticoagulation patients. It is inevitable that strong patient relationships are formed and are the most rewarding part of the job.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

In my free time, I enjoy all things Colorado. I adopted my dog Betty two weeks into my residency with Kaiser, and she is a great hiking companion. I also enjoy skiing at Loveland, and visiting all the delicious restaurants and dog-friendly breweries in Denver!