# Component 2: The Culture of Health Care

Unit 2: Health Professionals – the people in health care Lecture 3: Physician Asst., Pharmacy, Therapist, Technicians

Component 2/Unit 2

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#### Unit 2, Lecture 3 Objectives

- Physician Assistant education, training, certification, licensure and roles
- Pharmacists education, training, certification, licensure and roles
- · Therapists hospital and clinic based
  - Respiratory therapy
  - Physical therapy
  - Occupational therapy
- · Technicians and ancillary services
  - Ancillary services: radiology, EKG, etc
  - Nutrition and dietary

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#### Physician Assistant

- Education
  - Most PA applicants have a B.A.
  - Associate, Bachelors, or Masters Degree
- Training
  - Preclinical
  - Clinical
- Certification
  - Required to pass the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam, maintaining certification requires Continuing Medical Education and recertifying every six years

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#### Physician Assistant

- Licensure
  - In most states licensure is by a the medical board, some states have a specific PA board
- Roles
  - Diagnose and treat patients under the supervision of a physician
  - Most states allow prescribing authority
  - Most states allow Physician Assistants to make hospital and nursing home rounds

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#### **Pharmacist**

- Education
  - Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) required since 2007
- Training
  - Usually two years of general studies (usually prior to admittance)
  - Usually two years of pharmacy science
  - Usually two years of clinical pharmacy
  - Option exist for residency and fellowships

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## Pharmacy

- Certification
  - The are five specialty practice areas recognized by the Board of Pharmacy
    Specialties; Ambulatory Care Pharmacy,
    Nuclear Pharmacy, Nutrition Support
    Pharmacy, Oncology Pharmacy,
    Pharmacotherapy, and Psychiatric Pharmacy

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#### **Pharmacy**

- Licensure
  - Varies by States
  - All states require the North America Pharmacy Licensure Exam (NAPLEX)
  - Most states require the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE)
  - Some states require a state exam instead of or in addition to the MPJE
- Roles
- Dispensing, community and hospital based
- Consulting, usually hospital based

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## **Respiratory Therapy**

- Education
  - Usually an Associate Degree, but there are Bachelor's Degree's in Respiratory Therapy
- Training
  - Preclinical
  - Clinical
- Certification two levels
  - Certified Respiratory Therapist Exam (CRT)
  - Register Respiratory Therapist Exam (RRT)
  - Both exams are offered by the National Board of Respiratory Care

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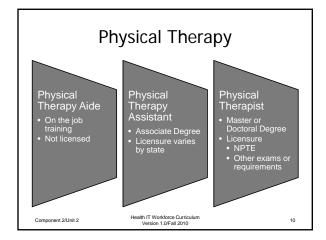
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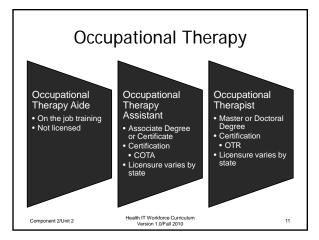
#### **Respiratory Therapy**

- Licensure
  - Required in most States
  - Successful completion of the CRT exam required
- Roles
  - Respiratory Assess
  - Patient Education
  - Respiratory Treatments and Medication
  - Oxygen Administration and Ventilator Support

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## Radiology Technician/ Technologist

- Education
  - Certificate, Associate Degree, Bachelor's Degree
- Training
  - Some general studies
  - Anatomy, Physiology, Math, Physics, Radiation Technology
  - Clinical practica

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### Radiology Technician/ Technologist

- Certification
  - Voluntary Certification by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist
  - Includes graduation from an accredited program and passing an exam
- Licensure
  - Varies by state, but most require licensure
  - ARRT certification is often a requirement

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## Radiology Technician/ Technologist

- Role
  - Help maintain and calibrate equipment
  - Position and set controls for X-Rays
  - May specialize in a specific type of Radiology like Computed Tomography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging

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#### **EKG** Technician

- Education
  - Some certificate programs usually a single class of approximately 50-60 hours
  - Often on the job training
- Training
  - Basic anatomy, physiology and electrophysiology of the heart
  - Technical training on how to use the equipment, verify quality of the tracing

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#### **EKG** Technician

- Certification
  - There appear to be some certification exams but they do not appear to be required
- License
  - No state license required
- Role
  - It the most basic form, EKG Technicians set up the EKG equipment, run the test, evaluate whether it is an accurate recording and prepare the recording for interpretation.

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#### **Dietetics and Nutrution** Dietetic Associates Degree Registration Examination for Technician Dietetic Technicians Variable Licensure (DTR) Bachelor's Degree Dietician Registration Examination for Dieticians (RD) Most states require licensure, certification or registration Health IT Workforce Curriculum Version 1.0/Fall 2010 Component 2/Unit 2

### Summary

- The education, training, certification, licensure and roles of the following health professions have been described:
  - Physician Assistants
  - Pharmacist
  - Respiratory, Physical and Occupation Therapy
  - Examples of some technicians
  - Nutrition and Dietary

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