

ANALYSIS OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CLINICAL PHARMACISTS TO THE DISCHARGE PROCESS (B4), Bryce Bitton, Tim Drake. McKay-Dee Hospital, Ogden, UT (bryce.bitton@imail.org) IRB approval received.

The day of discharge from the hospital can be rushed and filled with confusion for patients and hospital staff. McKay-Dee Hospital recently expanded the role of clinical pharmacists in the discharge process. Pharmacists now review and evaluate discharge orders, counsel patients on new medications, offer to fill the patient's new prescriptions at the hospital's outpatient pharmacy, and identify patients interested in follow-up counseling sessions with a pharmacist. The purpose of this prospective, observational study is to assess the clinical and financial differences a pharmacist may bring to the discharge process. Data collection occurred from August 2008 to December 2008. The primary outcome of the study is the number of recommendations made to a healthcare provider regarding changes to the discharge orders (medication addition or discontinuation, drug interaction, dosage change, etc.). The secondary goals include measuring number of patients filling prescriptions, number of patients counseled by pharmacists, time spent on the discharge process, and an analysis of cost savings for the healthcare system. Results will be presented.

