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## Junior Editor's Report

### The Vital Role of Pharmacists in Healthcare

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As highly trained professionals, Pharmacists are not only medication experts and patient educators. They also serve as strong advocates for your healthcare, ensuring the safe and effective use of medications.

The journey to becoming a Pharmacist is a testament to their dedication and perseverance. It involves extensive education and training, including a four-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program and approximately 1500 hours of internship. This is followed by the state test NAPLEX (North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination) to obtain a license. Many Pharmacists further specialize in areas such as nuclear pharmacy, nutritional support, geriatric pharmacy, or psychiatric pharmacy, showcasing their depth of knowledge and expertise.

Pharmacists are responsible for dispensing medications, medication management, patient education, drug information, and public health. They are essential in ensuring that prescriptions are filled accurately and checking for potential drug interactions, dosage errors, and contraindications. Pharmacists work closely with doctors and other healthcare providers to develop and monitor medication plans for conditions or collect medications. When Pharmacists talk to patients about their medication, they provide valuable information, including proper usage, potential side effects, and necessary precautions. They serve as experts on drug therapy, providing up-to-date information. Pharmacists play a vital role in promoting public health by giving vaccinations, health screenings, and education on disease prevention and healthy living.

Pharmacists will undoubtedly play an even more significant role in patient care as healthcare continues to evolve. Their expertise in medication management, combined with their accessibility and commitment to patient education, makes them valuable healthcare team members.

