

Riverview Health Centre Pharmacy Department Pharmacy Student Placement Description

The Hospital

Riverview Health Centre is a long-term healthcare facility with a focus on chronic care, rehabilitation, geriatric medicine, and palliative care. It comprises:

- Personal Care Home (PCH) patient care units
- Personal Care Special Needs patient care units (e.g., Alzheimer/dementia; behavior management issues not suitable for care in a general PCH setting;
- Palliative Care, with an emphasis on optimizing symptom management;
- Day Hospital (to optimize functioning of persons living in the community)

The Pharmacy

Pharmacists provide direct patient care to patients and residents who require chronic, rehabilitative, geriatric and/or palliative care. Pharmacists have a primary clinical assignment to a designated patient care team/unit.

Pharmacy technicians aid delivery of pharmaceutical care through support of the computerized (Cerner HealthVision), automated unit-dose (Pyxis) drug distribution system. Pharmacy technicians also support pharmacy purchasing, wardstock, and inventory control systems.

The Placement Sites

Pharmacy and pharmacy technician students doing placements at Riverview Health Centre will have opportunities to look after patients from many care units of the facility. The emphasis is on drug therapy of pain and end-of-life symptoms, heart disease, respiratory disease, neurological disorders, and diseases of the elderly. Pharmacy students will perform medication reviews, monitor medication therapy, provide drug information, attend team rounds, perform patient interviews and do medication teaching. There are opportunities to work with nurses, physicians, social workers, physio- and occupational therapy, and pastoral care workers.