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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
*NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL*

Lori A. Weaver  
Commissioner

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Ellen M. Lapointe  
Chief Executive Officer

August 3, 2023

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA: 94:6 the Department of Health and Human Services respectfully requests to place Dr. Alexandra E. Caron at Step 4 for the position of Pharmacist – Inpatient Mental Health System of NH, position #9U561, unclassified salary grade KK, earning \$130,216.00 effective September 8, 2023, upon Governor and Council approval. 85% General Funds, 15% Other (interagency).

**EXPLANATION**

Position #9U561, Pharmacist, Inpatient Mental Health System of New Hampshire for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is responsible to oversee pharmacy technicians, dispense medications, supply medical literature to and counsel patients upon discharge. Also, the Pharmacist provides responsible professional work in the receipt and storage of medicinal and other pharmaceutical supplies. The Pharmacist gives direction to and consults with unit team members, as well as compiles, analyzes, and interprets data for quality assurance projects. In addition, the Pharmacist participates on various professional committees at New Hampshire Hospital, and in a rotating on call schedule.

Dr. Caron earned a Doctorate of Pharmacy from the MCPHS University in 2021. Prior to graduation, she completed an internship at New Hampshire Hospital Pharmacy, where she showed a strong aptitude for clinical pharmaceutical care of mental health patients. In her current role as a hospital clinical pharmacist, Dr. Caron has gained experience in all of the tasks that are essential for success as a New Hampshire Hospital Pharmacist. In particular, Dr. Caron has expertise in medication reconciliation, working in collaboration with teams on units, in writing pharmacy consults, and giving oral presentations.

Although it is not the goal for government to compete with private industry, DHHS' goal is to recruit and hire quality, experienced employees to enable the Department to provide services to the citizens of New Hampshire effectively and efficiently. The hiring landscape supports appointment at Step 4. I respectfully request that Dr. Caron be placed in the Pharmacist – Inpatient Mental Health System of NH position.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Weaver  
Commissioner

# Alexandra Caron

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## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Pharmacy** | Received May 2021

- MCPHS University, Manchester, NH

**Bachelor of Science in Biology** | Received August 2016

- Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

**Bachelor of Arts in Psychology** | Received August 2016

- Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

## CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSURE

- New Hampshire Pharmacist License with Immunization Endorsement | ID: PHCY-01291 | expires December 31st, 2023
- APhA Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery Certification | received May 30th, 2019
- APhA The Pharmacist and Patient-Centered Diabetes Care Certificate | received January 8th, 2021

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### **MCPHS University**

- Received the Dean's List Honor succeeding the completion of the following semesters: Fall 2020, Spring 2021
- *Cum Laude* Latin honors

### **Syracuse University**

- Received the Dean's List Honor succeeding the completion of the following semesters: Spring 2015, Spring 2016, and Summer 2016
- Member of the Omicron Chapter of Delta Delta Delta at Syracuse University
  - Individually raised over \$900 as a volunteer and donor for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Education abroad: Madrid, Spain: Spring 2015

## PHARMACY WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Clinical Pharmacist** | Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

August 2022 - PRESENT

- Complete product verification for patient-specific doses, emergency equipment, narcotics, and unit-dosed medications in the central pharmacy
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary team members to ensure optimal patient care
- Perform order verification for patients located in surgery units
- Conduct pharmacist-managed vancomycin dosing and monitoring
- Renally adjust antibiotics per Pharmacy & Therapeutics protocol
- Complete product verification for sterile preparations including hazardous and non-hazardous patient-specific doses, medication batches, and pediatric stock solutions according to USP 797 and 800
- Verify neonatal, pediatric and adult custom parenteral nutrition orders for appropriateness

### **Pharmacist** | Walgreens Pharmacy

JANUARY 2022 - August 2022

- Performed data review and product verification
- Communicated potentially inappropriate medication use and recommended therapy modification to prescribers
- Administered vaccines
- Performed COVID-19 testing

### **Pharmacy Intern** | Walgreens Pharmacy

SEPTEMBER 2020 - JANUARY 2022

- Participated in flu and COVID-19 vaccine clinics
- Received verbal prescriptions from prescribers
- Filled prescriptions
- Counseled patients on prescription medications and over-the-counter products

### **Pharmacy Intern** | PillPack Pharmacy

JANUARY 2019 - OCTOBER 2020

- Transferred prescriptions verbally and electronically for new and existing patients
- Provided medication therapy management for eligible patients
- Contacted prescribers for prescription clarification

## CLINICAL ROTATIONS

**Commonwealth School of Herbal Medicine** | Boston, MA | Elective

August 2020 - September 2020

- Developed lifelong skills to identify common plants, their properties and how they can be utilized to aid in healing the human body
- Prepared herbs in different forms such as oils, elixirs, steams, and teas
- Created monographs for various herbs
- Experimented with incorporating herbs into my daily routine

**Hannaford Pharmacy | Bedford, NH | Community**

September 2020 - October 2020

- Counseled patients on prescription medications and over-the-counter products
- Observed data verification and product review by the pharmacist
- Filled prescriptions

**Lamprey Health Clinic | Nashua, NH | Ambulatory Care**

November 2020 - December 2020

- Attended New Hampshire Board of Pharmacy meetings
- Presented to Lamprey providers on the safe use of opioids
- Attended a meeting with the members of the New Hampshire Opioid Task Force
- Completed drug consults, SOAP notes and journal club assignments

**Concord Hospital | Concord, NH | Institutional**

January 2021 - February 2021

- Performed medication reconciliation for admitted patients
- Completed monthly drug utilization evaluations for fentanyl patches prescribed throughout the hospital system
- Presented current ISMP safety alert information to the members of the Medication Safety Committee
- Observed Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee meetings

**Norris Cotton Cancer Center | Nashua, NH | Elective**

February 2021 - March 2021

- Evaluated patient histories and medication regimens for appropriateness
- Accompanied medical providers to patient appointments before assessing treatment plans using current published guidelines
- Observed infusion nurses and their relative duties
- Observed hazardous and non-hazardous sterile compounding
- Assisted with state-run COVID-19 immunization clinics
- Participated in anticoagulation clinic duties including communicating with patients in regard to INR values
- Presented on the key differences between different classes of medications used in the treatment of type II diabetes using systematic reviews, clinical trials and currently published guidelines

**Valley Regional Hospital | Claremont, NH | Internal Medicine**

March 2021 - May 2021

- Participated in daily rounds with hospital staff and providers
- Assisted with collaborative practice appointments for patients managing type II diabetes
- Reviewed the hospital formulary and made recommendations for change based on current published guidelines
- Observed infusion treatments
- Created a hospital protocol for the treatment of alcohol withdrawal
- Created a reference comparing the relative COVID-19 vaccines for hospital staff and providers
- Responded to provider questions with pharmacological information and therapeutic recommendations
- Analyzed and reported monthly vancomycin prescribing and dosing information to the antimicrobial stewardship program

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Vice President of Policy | American Pharmacist's Association: Academy of Student Pharmacists | April 2019 - May 2020
- Community Outreach Coordinator | American Society of Health-System Pharmacists | April 2019 - May 2020

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition | Virtual | December 2020
  - Mechanisms of Drug Interactions Between Warfarin and Enteral Nutrition