Goal #1: **Describe the method(s) and process of dispensing medication to patients**

**Objectives:**
The student should be able to:

1. Describe the medication distribution/dispensing process utilized at the site. This should include but not limited to receiving the medication order, processing the order, filling the order, checking the order, and dispensing to the patient.
2. Describe and utilize the various technology (computer systems, automated dispensing devices, bar-coding, robotics) used in the medication distribution process.
3. Identify the federal, state, accrediting body, and site-specific regulations and standards for the dispensing of medications to a patient.
4. Describe programs, methods, and technology utilized within the pharmacy to detect and minimize the occurrence of medication errors.

Goal #2: **Observe and participate in the prescription filling and dispensing process**

**Objectives:**
The student should be able to:

1. Recognize the legal types of prescription orders (written, verbal, faxed, electronic, physician order entry).
2. Obtain important background information on the patient (allergies, medical history, and medication history, insurance information) in order to process a prescription.
3. Participate in the data entry process for filling a prescription. This should include but not limited to entry of patient information, patient profile management, reading the prescription, clarification of the order with the prescriber when incomplete or erroneous information is detected, and billing of a third party payer.
4. Observe and participate in the proper selection/compounding of the medication, dosage form, and amount to fill the prescription order.
5. Accurately perform any necessary pharmaceutical calculations to properly fill or dispense a prescription.
6. Participate in the proper labeling of a prescription, including selection and utilization of any appropriate auxiliary labeling.
7. Observe the procedure(s) utilized in checking a medication (oral, injectable, chemotherapy, floor stock, emergency supplies, etc.) prior to dispensing.
8. Observe and participate (at the preceptor discretion) in the education and counseling of patients on medications. This may include demonstrating to the patient how to use various dosage forms (inhalers, injectables, eye drops/ointments, nasal sprays, and topical preparations), medical devices, and home-monitoring instruments (glucometer, blood pressure, etc.).
9. Observe and participate in the proper administration of medications to a patient. This may include the administration of routine immunizations.

Continued
Goal #3: Demonstrate the ability to counsel patients on the selection and use of OTC products
Objectives:
The student should be able to:
1. Observe and participate in the counseling of patients on the appropriate selection and use of OTC products. This should include assessing the source and severity of the patient’s symptoms, medical history, and determination if an OTC product will alleviate the symptoms.
2. Educate and advise the patient to seek medical attention when an OTC product is not indicated.
3. Instruct the patient on the expected outcomes of using an OTC product and what to do if improvement does not occur.

Goal #4: Describe the challenges and opportunities to providing medications to the underserved patient
Objectives:
The student should be able to:
1. Recognize the various programs to assist a patient to obtaining a needed medication. This may include but not limited to Medicare/Medicaid programs, prescription assistance programs, generic pharmacy formularies, and sample programs.
2. Assist a patient in applying for a specific prescription assistance program.
3. Participate in resolving third party disputes concerning prescription reimbursement.

Goal #5: Recognize the role of various health care practitioners in the acquisition, distribution and administration of medications
Objectives:
The student should be able to:
1. Recognize those individuals based on federal, state, or site specific regulations that can order and prescribe medications.
2. Describe the role of various personnel within a pharmacy or pharmacy department have in the medication distribution process. This may include but not limited to the pharmacist, pharmacy technician, director/manager, clinical pharmacist, buyer, etc.
3. Recognize the role that other health care practitioners (nurses, respiratory therapists, emergency technicians, etc.) have in the distribution and administration of medications.