

## **A Direction in Which Clinical Practice in Educating Pharmaceutical Students should be Inclined**

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An educational curriculum for pharmaceutical students in Japan will be dramatically changed in April 2006. There has been active discussion about how manage additional two years in the new program to educate the students most effectively. In particular, the program of clinical practice in pharmacies, which will be performed for 10weeks, has been conferred enthusiastically, because it was not considered well in the old educational program and it would be one of the most important issue in the new curriculum.

I am not either a pharmacist or a professional of pharmaceutical education, but I believe firmly that effective program of clinical practice in community pharmacies would be indispensable in making new curriculum successful. I also believe a “new-type pharmacist” educated in new course would change medical systems in this country from the view point of a general thoracic surgeon and a chief executive officer of Pharmedico, Co., Ltd. which manages six pharmacies in Osaka prefecture.

In this symposium, I want to show my opinion about the vector of clinical practice for pharmaceutical students and discuss with other members which direction clinical training in new educational program should be inclined.