

This has raised doubts concerning the relevance of modern pharmacy education. As with other members of health professions, on the one hand, it would seem that much of the traditional education is not utilized, since a nonprofessional pharmacist--working under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist--can effectively perform many of the routine tasks of counting, labeling, and pricing. At the same time, many pharmacists are seeking a new role as a drug information specialist, and thus it would appear that their formal education has not taken this into account.

These problems regarding what the role of the pharmacist properly is--or should be--deserve careful consideration.

Pharmacist Aides

Experience in numerous pharmacies--military and non-military Federal installations, nongovernmental hospitals, and others--has demonstrated that individuals without formal pharmacy education can effectively undertake many of the routine activities of pharmacists, under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist.