DRUG INFORMATION CENTER
A Missouri Board of Pharmacy-approved intern training site and leading provider of evidence-based drug information
Our mission is to provide education in drug information and evidence-based medicine principles that will optimize pharmaceutical care. This is done through the following:

• Curriculum support
• Scholarly activity
• Formulary management
• Community service

Our multi-faceted center provides client groups, including community health-care professionals, consumers, hospitals and state prescription assistance formularies, with drug information and evidence-based recommendations that will optimize pharmaceutical care.

That’s not all. We also:

• Provide contractual services
• Participate in a variety of educational and research activities

Our goal is to develop a national and international reputation for innovative and non-traditional services and training.

DI REFERENCES AND RESOURCES
Based on skills in knowledge translation, the UMKC Drug Information Center specializes in evaluating the most current and comprehensive drug information to find and develop relevant, focused responses that meet specific needs. Through various channels, both faculty and students daily provide impartial, evidence-based answers to questions from health professionals and members of the public.

RESOURCES AT THE UMKC DRUG INFORMATION CENTER INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

• Medical and pharmaceutical journals
• An extensive library of drug- and disease-related resources
• International and specialty references (e.g. foreign, veterinary, and alternative health references)
• On-site databases and references on marketed and investigational drugs, disease and disease management, and pharmacy practice topics
• Subscription databases (e.g. LexiComp, Clinical Pharmacology, Dynamed Plus, Reactions, OVID and PubMed)
• A drug information requests documentation system

OUR DRUG INFORMATION CALL CENTER
The Drug Information Call Center is staffed by a team of Pharm.D. candidates on monthly experiential rotation. The oversight of each rotation student is provided by a Missouri licensed faculty pharmacist with more than 40 years of combined expertise in the application of evidence-based medical principles and concepts.

The Call Center provides drug information throughout the calendar year excluding major holidays and is available to the public and health-care providers. The Drug Information Center also provides services to state governmental agencies, hospitals and other contractual clients. These services include evidence-based medical analyses, drug information, newsletters and other medical writing requests.
OUR ROLE IN EDUCATION

The UMKC Drug Information Center faculty are widely recognized for their advanced scholarly activities and training. Four curricular support programs are offered through activities of the Drug Information Center.

EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE

Students will learn to integrate information from multiple sources to make more complex, health-care related decisions. A key aspect of the course is to provide confidence and ability in assimilating existing information into recommendations/decisions. Throughout the course, the student will observe and participate in applying these tools for evidence-based practice to real pharmacy issues in order to make individual patient care and population-based decisions.

EXPERIENTIAL ROTATION

The UMKC Drug Information Center serves as a rotation site for pharmacy students completing their four-week experiential rotation in drug information. Under the guidance and supervision of Drug Information Center faculty, students become proficient in applying evidence-based medicine principles through the completion of drug information requests and projects, using a variety of drug information resources.

POST-DOCTORAL PROGRAM

The Drug Information Fellowship is a customized post-doctoral program. This program prepares participants for careers encompassing drug information, specifically the practice of evidence-based decision-making in a pharmacy practice setting. Previous UMKC Drug Information post-docs have further specialized in the following areas:

- Drug Policy Development and Management, applied in hospital and administrative practice
- Medical Communications, applied in retail, industry and entrepreneurial practice
- Drug Information, applied in the pharmaceutical industry

SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

The Drug Information Center has developed a unique, five-step process that allows students to quickly organize and evaluate drug information from clinical studies. It uses an in-house, evidence-based medicine process by Pat Bryant, Pharm.D., and Heather Pace, Pharm.D., titled, “The Pharmacist’s Guide to Evidence-Based Medicine for Clinical Decision Making.” Use of this evidence-based medicine process helps students and practitioners develop objective and defensible drug information recommendations to support clinical decisions for use in drug prior authorization, therapeutic class reviews, and Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee formulary decisions.

Research efforts are focused on educational innovations and enhancements in the practical application of evidence-based medicine. The UMKC Drug Information Center faculty make frequent contributions in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, clinical presentations, seminars and continuing education programs.
I had a great experience working at the UMKC drug information center. I was able to tailor my training to complement my career goals and find my dream job. This fellowship has given me the skills in evidence-based medicine that I can apply in various practice settings such as community, hospital and industry. I definitely enjoyed the year at UMKC Drug Information Center.

Wan-Yi Lu, Pharm.D., Drug Information Fellow 2015-16
Medical Science Liaison, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

For more information, check out go.umkc.edu/druginfo.

The School of Pharmacy is located in the $53 million Health Sciences Building on the UMKC Health Sciences Campus at Hospital Hill. The building houses instructional, research and administrative/support office space for both the schools of Pharmacy and Nursing, as well as a full library of informational resources available to students, residents and faculty.