

CPA Rising Pharmacist Spotlight: March 2022

Name and title: Patrick Roberts, PharmD, BCPS

Current position: Manager, Formulary Operations and Strategy at Yale Health

Years in practice: 4+ years as a pharmacist, 17 years total in pharmacy

Inspiration to practice pharmacy:

Two individuals inspired me to pursue pharmacy as a career.

In high school, I worked as a cashier at my local CVS. Here I met Rob Zirlis, who was the pharmacy manager and took me under his wing. It was his passion for helping people and promoting the profession that changed my career path. After graduating from UConn (not with a Pharm.D. or the best grades), he continued to push me to return to school to finish what I started.

My aunt, who is also a pharmacist, is the other inspiration. Having worked for industry for much of her career, she inspired me to explore alternative opportunities in the profession.

Proudest accomplishment:

My proudest accomplishment, so far, is the time my team was presented with our organization's Nurse's Choice Award. It was an honor to be recognized by our colleagues for our work in caring for our patients, and for supporting the nursing profession.

Future aspirations:

For as many times as I've asked resident applicants this, you think I'd have thought about this more and have a good answer. I was recently promoted into my current position, which would have been my answer a month ago. For the time being, I want to develop a greater understanding of business operations and effective management skills to prepare for more leadership opportunities in the future.

Fun Fact:

I enjoy skiing and spending time in the mountains. I'm not the best and you won't find me in the Olympics. It allows me to get away from the chaos, free my mind and challenge myself.

CPA Member since: 2016

