# **Special Issue**

# Pharmacy Education; Competency and beyond

# Message from the Guest Editor

Pharmacy is part of a global movement in the education of health professionals that is increasingly determined, not only by the rapid growth in biomedical science knowledge, but also by the imperative to address the health needs of the communities that they serve. Furthermore, pharmacy, like other regulated professions, must demonstrate that formative education ensures competence to practice and that this is maintained via Continuous Professional Development. This has led to the development of competency frameworks that define the scope of practice, provide a scaffold for curriculum development, create a need for validated student assessment methods, establish requirements for experiential learning and engender accreditation criteria for the evaluation and quality assurance of professional degrees. Apart from the pharmacy-specific behaviours that are being pursued, the requirements for interprofessional, collaborative, patient-centred practice and for place both additional burdens.

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