Differences in training required for hospital pharmacy practice in France and Quebec

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Objectives
- To compare the required training for hospital pharmacy practice in France and in Quebec during a one-year internship in a Quebec teaching hospital
- To explore the similitudes and differences in trainings

Methods
- Descriptive, comparative study
- Three French interns, one Quebec resident, two Quebec hospital pharmacists affiliated with the Faculty of pharmacy
- After review of key websites and literature, a list of relevant themes was established

Results - Discussion

7 similarities 20 differences

Selection process for admission into the program
National competition (FR)
Obtention of an average 3.0/4.3 in pharmacy (QC)

Obligation to follow a model of training
4 fields of hospital pharmacy (FR)
One specialty (advanced pharmacotherapy) (QC)

Salary
Theoretical examinations
Validation of each hospital internship
Validation of a final report in order to obtain the diploma
No specific qualifications are required to work in hospitals

Name of program
Internat (FR)
Residency (QC)

Duration of program
48 months (FR)
18 months (QC)

Type of internship
4 fields (FR)
Pharmaceutical care (QC)

Self-assessment
(QC)

Geographic mobility during internship
Very frequently (FR)

Choice of assignment
Chosen by interns (FR)
Chosen by residents and department head (QC)

Obligations

Responsible
Post-program status
Assistant pharmacist (FR)
Pharmacist (QC)

Capacity of supervision
3.3 pharmacists per hospital (FR)
17 pharmacists per hospital (QC)

Prerequisite for teaching
University thesis (FR)
No academic pre-requisites (QC)

Professional context
Economic difficulties (FR)
Staff shortage (QC)

Conclusion
- Significant differences between French and Quebec post-graduate training required to work in a hospital setting
- A better understanding of these similitudes and differences may contribute to reciprocal improvement of these programs and favour exchanges between both countries

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