

# ACCP Clinical Administration PRN Member Spotlight



**Nitish Bangalore, PharmD, BCPS**

**Current position within Clinical Administration PRN:**

I have been the chair of the Clinical Administration PRN Education & Research Committee for the past 3 years.

**What was the route you took to get to where you are today?**

I graduated from the University of Illinois College of Pharmacy in 1998. I completed an ASHP-accredited Pharmacy Practice Residency at United Hospital/Children's Hospital in St. Paul, MN in 1999.

Immediately after residency, I worked at Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center in Milwaukee, WI as a staff pharmacist. I worked primarily in Medical/Surgical, Intensive Care, and Oncology inpatient areas of the hospital. A few years later, I became a Clinical Coordinator. I worked with the Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Teaching Teams and precepted APPE students working on those teams. I was also the Investigational Drug Coordinator.

In 2007, I began working as the Clinical Pharmacy Supervisor at Wheaton Franciscan – St. Joseph (now part of Ascension of Wisconsin) in Milwaukee, WI. I was also the PGY-1 Residency Program Director. I oversaw drug information, drug policy, formulary management, clinical pharmacy initiatives, and experiential education for the hospital pharmacy department.

In 2010, I started working as the Pharmacy Manager at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin St. Joseph's Hospital in West Bend, WI.

I joined ACCP in 2002 after achieving Board Certification in Pharmacotherapy Specialty. I first started actively participating with the Adult Medicine PRN. I joined several committees and gave a presentation on inpatient insulin use at an Annual Meeting Pre-Symposium.

As my role has changed as I moved jobs in 2010, I switched to more active participation with the Clinical Administration PRN.

**Please provide a brief description of your current position.**

I oversee the pharmacy department for both inpatient/acute care and outpatient cancer center. In this role, I oversee pharmacy operations, clinical pharmacy services, medication safety and quality, and regulatory compliance. I precept APPE students on health-systems and administrative pharmacy rotations.

**What do you like most about your current job?**

Working in the Pharmacy Department for a rather small hospital (70 beds), I get to do a little bit of everything. The job has a lot of variety. Change is a constant. On any given day, I could be presenting at our monthly Health-System Pharmacy Strategic Planning report-out meeting or running reports to help optimize the stock in our Automated Dispensing Cabinets or performing leader rounding with staff and patients or delivering medications to patient rooms because of a pharmacy technician sick call. The staff of the Pharmacy Department is the best that I have ever worked with. I am so fortunate that each member of the team is highly qualified, competent, hardworking, and committed to exceptional medication safety and outcomes.

**Why did you join ACCP?**

Clinical pharmacy is my passion. I have devoted my career to learning as much as I can about how to optimize drug therapy and to use that knowledge to inform and teach other healthcare professionals and learners. ACCP is helping to lead the effort to transform the way that pharmacists care for patients in all practice settings. ACCP does this by supporting the research, guideline development, provision of information, outreach, and advocacy that will take to achieve that goal.

**Reason for joining the Clinical Administration PRN and what keeps you involved?**

Management of clinical pharmacy services is complex and challenging. The Clinical Administration PRN allows me to develop the skills that I need and identifies resources that could help me. The PRN is structured to get together others that share my passions and interests together online and in person.

**What do you like to do for fun outside of work/fun fact about yourself?**

I have been a Scouting volunteer leader for about 8 years. I grew up in inner-city Chicago. I had very little exposure to camping, hiking, and other outdoors activities. I started with Scouting when my son joined Cub Scouts in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. As I have gone along with him, I have learned many of the skills and gone through many of the experiences that he has. These include camping, hiking, biking, swimming, STEM, patriotic events, and volunteer activities.

**What advice would you give a student or current resident interested in pursuing pharmacy administration?**

When I was in school, in residency, and a new practitioner, I used to say “I’ll never go into administration.” But as I gained experience, I came to realize that I wanted to make a difference. I wanted to elevate the role of the pharmacist and pharmacy staff. I wanted to be a part of the efforts to lead change. I wanted to pass on my knowledge to others. I found that the best way to do this was to get into formal leadership positions. While I do not relish having to make difficult

decisions, I have come to find great satisfaction in every challenge and opportunity that has presented over my time in pharmacy administration.