



NAME: COMMANDER (CDR) LOU FELDMAN

JOB TITLE: CHIEF PHARMACIST, SELLS INDIAN HOSPITAL

AGENCY: INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS)

EDUCATION/DEGREES/CERTIFICATES/INSTITUTIONS:

- Doctor of Pharmacy, Idaho State University College of Pharmacy (2003)
- Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, St. John's University College of Pharmacy (1995)
- Bachelor of Science in Biology, State University of New York at Oswego (1989)
- National Certified Pharmacy Specialist (NCPS) in Anticoagulation Management
- Certified in Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers
- Certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- Licensed Pharmacist in the state of Maryland

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:

Commander Lou Feldman recently transferred to the Sells Indian Hospital in Arizona to accept the position of Chief Pharmacist. He envisions using experiences gained from his previous IHS assignments to improve patient safety and care. CDR Feldman currently manages five staff pharmacists and three pharmacy technicians at Sells Indian Hospital. In addition, he oversees the pharmacy operations of three collateral clinics, and therefore manages a total of ten pharmacists and four pharmacy technicians. CDR Feldman has been tasked to see the pharmacy through the implementation of the Electronic Health Record and help develop clinical programs within the area as well as ensure compliance with Joint Commission Standards.

QUALIFYING SKILLS FOR CURRENT POSITION:

CDR Feldman developed the skills required for his current position in several ways. He completed a Non-Traditional Doctor of Pharmacy program to improve his administrative and research expertise. Also, during his Doctor of Pharmacy program, he had the opportunity to complete clinical rotations at several IHS clinics and was able to integrate several best practice concepts into his current practice. CDR Feldman's involvement with the Anticoagulation Program at Zuni Comprehensive Community Health Center honed his project management skills. At Fort Defiance Indian Hospital, he was instrumental in the acquisition of innovative automated pharmacy technology which decreased dispensing errors and improved the hospital's ability to track drug disposition. CDR Feldman also helped develop a Pharmacy Residency Program at Fort Defiance. He is a firm believer in seeking expert advice from experienced mentors and believes this is essential to becoming a successful leader.

REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE USPHS AS A CAREER:

CDR Feldman has always sought a challenging pharmacy career path. His exposure to the USPHS started when he was accepted into the Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program (COSTEP) for a position at the FDA. This positive exposure to the USPHS Commissioned Corps was the pivotal factor that led CDR Feldman to seek a commission in the USPHS. He determined the IHS would give him an excellent opportunity to practice clinical pharmacy and hence he accepted his first assignment at Fort Defiance Indian Hospital. CDR Feldman had never previously been further west than Indianapolis, but fell in love with the Southwest as soon as he arrived.

PREVIOUS USPHS ASSIGNMENTS:

- Fort Defiance Indian Hospital (2005-2007): CDR Feldman returned to the location where he started his career as a commissioned officer to assume the position of Deputy Chief Pharmacist. He had many responsibilities including assisting the Chief Pharmacist in managing fifteen staff pharmacists and seven pharmacy technicians. CDR Feldman also served as Secretary of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, served on the Housing Committee and assisted on several other committees. He researched the available pharmacy automation technology and successfully procured ScriptPro[®] Central, a system that utilizes bar code technology and signature capture. As a result, dispensing errors decreased significantly and patient prescriptions were easier to track. CDR Feldman's desire for mentoring led him to once again become a preceptor for several Colleges of Pharmacy. He also helped establish a Pharmacy Residency Program and served as the General Pharmacy Residency Director.
- Zuni Comprehensive Community Health Center (2000-2004): CDR Feldman was assigned to the Zuni Comprehensive Community Health Center as the Senior Staff Pharmacist. He helped bring the COSTEP Program to Zuni and was a member of the IHS Pharmacy Recruitment Team, helping recruit students from the Albuquerque and Navajo Areas. CDR Feldman again served as a preceptor for several Colleges of Pharmacy. He started the Anticoagulation Program at the hospital and also served as the Program Director. CDR Feldman also completed his Non-Traditional Doctor of Pharmacy while stationed at Zuni.
- Santa Fe Indian Hospital (1999): CDR Feldman served as a Staff Pharmacist at the Santa Fe Indian Hospital. He was asked to utilize experience gained from his previous assignment to improve the narcotic tracking system and help institute the chronic medication list to reduce medication errors. CDR Feldman served as an active member of the hospital's Diabetes Team and as Preceptor for several Colleges of Pharmacy. He also served as the hospital's COSTEP Coordinator and gave both recruitment and clinical lectures at the University of New Mexico.
- Fort Defiance Indian Hospital (1995-1998): After graduating from St. John's University College of Pharmacy, CDR Feldman started his USPHS career at Fort Defiance Indian Hospital in 1995 as a Staff Pharmacist. He quickly adapted to the IHS model of pharmacy practice, and also served on the Diabetes Team and mentored pharmacy students. In addition, he delivered several staff presentations on various pharmacy topics. CDR Feldman's thirst for knowledge

prompted him to begin pursuit of his Non-Traditional Doctor of Pharmacy degree while stationed at Fort Defiance.

MOST REWARDING USPHS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

CDR Feldman's most rewarding experience was working with an IHS Pharmacy Recruitment Team, where he interacted with many junior USPHS pharmacists who were developing their own career paths. He also had the opportunity to attend APhA meetings and meet Pharmacists from other USPHS OPDIVs, as well as Pharmacists practicing in a variety of other settings.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES:

CDR Feldman is an active member of ASHP, COA and ROA, but is primarily involved with APhA, where he serves as the Chair of the Hospital/Institutional Practice Section.

CDR Feldman enjoys spending time fishing and hiking in Colorado. He recently started playing baseball once again and adds that "if he can hit a 75 mph fastball (curveballs are another issue) and steal bases, anyone can!"

By CAPT Vernon Lew