

Veronica Ajewole, PharmD, BCOP Assistant Professor Clinical Pharmacy Practice Trends of Oral Formulation in Cancer Care: Focus on Capecitabine

Dr. Veronica B Ajewole earned her BS in Biochemistry from University of Ado Ekiti in Nigeria after which she worked as a Quality Control Personnel in an ISO-Certified Large-Scale Drug Manufacturing company for a few years before relocating to the United States in 2009. She completed her Doctor of Pharmacy degree with a Summa Cum Laude from Texas Southern University in 2015. After this, she completed her Post-Graduate Year 1 Pharmacy Residency and Year 2 Oncology pharmacy residency training at Houston Methodist Hospital in 2016 and 2017 after which she assumed the role of an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Texas Southern University. Currently, she is a Board-Certified Oncology Pharmacist with Clinical Pharmacy practice privilege at Houston Methodist Hospital Cancer Center, Texas Medical Center location where she implemented a medication therapy management program for cancer patients on oral chemotherapy to improve overall clinical outcome and address cancer health disparities among this population.

Dr. Ajewole's didactic teaching expertise is in diverse oncology-related topics for professional students in the College of Pharmacy and Health Science as well as development/implementation of a pharmacy practice driven integrated lab experience for 2nd year professional PharmD students. She is a seasoned clinical preceptor and mentor for several students and residents. She is an author of publications in peer-reviewed journals and a reviewer for peer-reviewed articles. She has had several poster and platform presentations in local and national conferences. TSU recently received a 5-year \$8.63 million grant award from the National Institute of Health's National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to establish a Center for Biomedical and Minority Health Research (CBMHR) where Dr. Ajewole will serve as the director of the Community Engagement Core. Through \$250,000 grant award from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Minority Research Grant Program Dr. Ajewole and her team will implement a project titled "Development of predictive model and social determinants-based interventions for aggressive prostate cancer among Africa-American".

Dr. Ajewole and her team received Susan G Komen community grant to establish Breast Cancer Screening and Prevention Center at TSU. She is also leading a proposal to reformulate capecitabine to enhance the PK/PD parameters which will lead to improved patient compliance, medication adherence, and decreased side effects.

Dr. Ajewole is happily married to her loving husband and blessed with 3 wonderful children.