



PRN

Pharmacy-Related News



UTAH SOCIETY OF
HEALTH-SYSTEM PHARMACISTS

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President's Message

By Dallas Moore, MS, RPh

Welcome to the first edition of the 2008 USHP newsletter. Spring time is always so refreshing. It is springtime in Utah! I generally enjoy the snow, but this year I am ready to move in to spring. The ground is thawing; the roads that are paved need repairing and the roads that aren't paved are turning into something resembling peanut butter! This bittersweet change of seasons (from white to green) is a very productive time for a lot of people.

First of all I would like to give many thanks to our Past President, Linda Tyler, for the outstanding job she did during her tenure as our President of USHP. As you may already know, she is extremely effective as a leader and I have come to appreciate her capabilities. We are very fortunate to have so many members in our organization with this kind of expertise, knowledge and wisdom. Many of our current Board members have volunteered to serve at many different levels to support the whole organization. Again, thanks to Linda and the many members who give of their time and hard work to support so many of us.

A goal we share at USHP is what we practice every day: vigilance. It is imperative that our organization stay on top of all matters both locally and nationally that affect our ability to practice and be reimbursed for our services. USHP relies on advice and opinions from all of its members regarding issues affecting our practice. In the end, it is the members who make the decisions on what course of action should be taken.

At the state level, we continue to work with our friends at the capital. The USHP Advocacy Committee and other USHP members combined with Utah Pharmacists Association (UPHA) in talking with some of the house

representatives concerning proposed bills which would directly affect pharmacy and our practice. One example where we were able to help make a difference was with HB0361. The original language placed the burden for substituting anti-seizure medications on the shoulders of the pharmacist. After working with the representative, the language was changed to expecting the physician to write DAW if the intent was to not allow substitution. There are other examples of our society working for our best interest. It is so important for our organization to have strong representation. We will be looking for much needed input from our members in the future.

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In the national arena, directors from ASHP, our parent organization, met with the Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) advisory panel with a recommendation that CMS create a pool fund payment and develop a model for reimbursing pharmacy services in hospitals. Other workings include creating policies that strongly advocate pharmacy practice residencies, mini-

mize the use of patients' own medications in the hospitals, pay-for-performance reimbursement and direct-to-consumer advertising of dietary supplements, and many other initiatives. These types of activities improve our profession and increase care for our patients.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our board members for their many efforts in maintaining the strength and visibility of our state organization. I would also invite you to voice any concerns that may be occurring in your practice settings so that they can be addressed by our Board. Remember, members are our focus and our drive is patient safety. I hope everyone has a fun and productive spring!

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“Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

—Margaret Mead

Technician Topics by Jan Bird, CPHT

Have you ever wondered how people become involved in certain things in life? Ever wish you could help your chosen profession in any way possible to make it even better? Wonder no longer! By becoming a “committed person” serving as a USHP Board or committee member, you can be proactive, not reactive. Affect your “world” of Pharmacy Technician statewide by participating in one of the USHP Committees: Technician, Advocacy, Membership, Communications and Programs.

Dictionary.com describes VOLUNTEER as:

1. a person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking.
2. a person who performs a service willingly and without pay.

By serving on a committee or the Board, you will reap the rewards of being a volunteer! You will feel good about helping put together great CE programs for the USHP meetings, bringing both pharmacist and technician members on board, and helping write an article for the e-newsletter, just to name a few. Your technician voice needs to be heard and you can do this by serving on a committee or by serving on the Board.

Your current Pharmacy Technician Board member is Jan Bird, with Jan and Lezlie Cohn-Oswald serving as the Co-chairs of the Technician Committee. You may contact Jan at Jan.Bird@imail.org or Lezlie at lezlie.cohnoswald@va.gov if you are interested in volunteering your time to USHP.

Updates in ACPE Accreditation Standards

There are several updates being phased in over the next several years to the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accreditation process. Many of these changes will affect participants directly in their learning activity. Below outlines some of these changes.

Learning Objectives

All continuing education activities will have specifically targeted objectives to Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians or both.

Assessment of Learning

In the past USHP has routinely issued a pre/post test during the live CE activities. Now, those tests are a requirement for credit. All tests will be graded and only those with a passing grade (75%) will receive credit for the activity.

Conflict of Interest & Commercial Support

All continuing education activities must be planned independent of commercial interest. USHP will make every attempt to present material with no commercial bias. Faculty members of each activity are asked to fill out conflict of interest forms upon contract with USHP. If a conflict arises, USHP will resolve the conflict through its Program Committee

and communicate it to all present participants at the Continuing Education activity.

How to Interpret the Program Number

Example: 167-000-06-026-L04-T

167—refers to the provider’s unique number. USHP’s provider number is 167.

000—is the co-sponsor unique number: 000 indicates there is no co-sponsor; 999 would mean the co-sponsor is not an ACPE-accredited provider.

06—indicates the year the program was released.

026—the program number assigned by ACPE

L—the format designator. “L” indicates a live activity, “H” indicates a home study program, and “C” is for activities that contain both live and home study aspects.

04—the topic designator: 01 means disease state management/drug therapy, 02 means AIDS therapy, 03 indicates a pharmacy law topic, 04 is for general pharmacy, and 05 is used for patient safety.

T—the target audience designator: P means a Pharmacist audience and T is for technician.

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Programs bearing this logo are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

ASHP Medication Reconciliation Toolkit

ASHP has developed a collection of resources to help health-system pharmacists accomplish the sometimes difficult task of medication reconciliation. According to the ASHP website "this resource center will provide ASHP members with tools, references, and recommendations as well as ideas and examples of success stories and lessons learned." The following links are found in the ASHP Medication Reconciliation Toolkit.

My Medicine List™ A comprehensive tool to help stimulate discussions between patients and health care professionals developed by ASHP and the ASHP Foundation.

ASHP Resources Collection of resources and programming that has been provided by ASHP. A compilation of publications is available to search by category. Abstracts from poster

presentations and PowerPoint slides from previous Midyear Clinical Meetings and Summer Meetings are also available.

ASHP Advocacy Efforts Tips and suggestions provided by ASHP members. Insight on what ASHP is doing for its members in the patient safety arena.

The Joint Commission Links to National Patient Safety Goals and the FAQ from the Joint Commission.

Initiatives in Medication Reconciliation Clearinghouse of information on programs other organizations have successfully implemented. Many sites include the tools and forms they used in implementation and also in the reconciliation process.

Other Initiatives in Personalized Medication Records Samples of medication record forms developed by other or-

ganizations.

Medication Reconciliation Basics The "How To" of medication reconciliation. Tips for implementation, developing a business model and troubleshooting. Sample documents are available as well as resources for condition specific continuity of care practices.

Quality Measures and Improvement Information about AHRQ grants and the current research that is being conducted on medication reconciliation and patient safety.

These tools are available at the ASHP website (www.ASHP.org) by selecting the Patient Safety option from the drop-down list under "Resource Centers/ Pharmacy Practice", then choosing "ASHP Medication Reconciliation Toolkit".



The ASHP website (www.ASHP.org) is a great resource for health-system pharmacists.

"This resource center will provide ASHP members with tools, references, and recommendations as well as ideas and examples of success stories and lessons learned." -ASHP

Student Corner by Dustin Wagstaff, USN Student

On behalf of the student body of University of Southern Nevada, I would like to thank USHP for the awesome lunch and presentation in January. Mr. Moore, Dr. Tyler and I visited the campus and were able to talk to the students about USHP and the benefits of joining, and, more importantly, participating. The students were very responsive and Dr. Tyler had a large pile of applications to go through when

we were done. Dr. Fannin, dean of the USN South Jordan Campus, as well as Dr. Stout and others are excited to have USHP get involved with the students and were very welcoming.

The USHP Membership Committee plans to visit the campus in April and present to the students. USN is excited to be involved in USHP and looks forward to further involvement.



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USHP Mission: We are here to advance and support the practice of pharmacy in health systems and serve as a collective voice on issues related to medication use and public health.

USHP Board and Committee Chairs

President

Dallas Moore, American Fork Hospital

Past President

Linda Tyler, University of Utah Hospitals & Clinics

President Elect

Mark Munger, University of Utah College of Pharmacy

Secretary

Karen Gunning, University of Utah College of Pharmacy

Treasurer

Sarah Feddema, University of Utah College of Pharmacy

Board Members

Tina Aramaki, Intermountain Healthcare—Advocacy Committee

Mark Harper, McKay-Dee Hospital—Communications Committee

Mark Balk, Pfizer Inc—Membership Committee

Erica Hermansen, Alta View Hospital—Programs Committee

Jan Bird, LDS Hospital—Technician Committee

Committee Chairs

Beth Young, Cyndie Taylor—Advocacy Committee

John Benson—Communications Committee

Chad Nelson—Membership Committee

Nannette Berensen, Becca Pond—Programs Committee

Lezlie Cohn-Oswald—Technician Committee

Student Representatives

Dustin Wagstaff—University of Southern Nevada

Jacob White—University of Utah

USHP Member News

- Erin Fox was elected Director-at-Large for the ASHP Section of Clinical Specialists.

- Nannette Berensen spoke at the “Balancing a Busy Life: Women Earning an Executive MBA” luncheon, sponsored by the University of Utah School of Business.

- James Jorgenson was appointed to the ASHP Commission on Goals for 2008-2009.

- Lezlie Cohn-Oswald was appointed to the ASHP

Pharmacy Technicians Advisory Group for 2008-2009.

- Mark Munger was honored as the 2008 University of Illinois at Chicago college of Pharmacy Alumni of the Year, and was appointed as a 2007 Member of the ACC/AHA Task Force on Practice Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Stable Ischemic Heart Disease (SIHD).

- Chad Condie, Linda Tyler, and David Canann published an article titled “Visual compatibility of

casprofungin acetate with commonly used drugs during simulated Y-site delivery” in the March I issue of the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacists.

If you know of appointments, awards, achievements, or other accolades about you or any USHP member, please email it to John.Benson@imail.org and it will appear in a future issue of PRN.

