Announcements

**NYSCHP 52nd Annual Assembly**
NYSCHP 52nd Annual Assembly: Medication Safety

Join us for our 52nd Annual Assembly at Turning Stone, in Verona NY. This Annual Assembly is great for bringing pharmacists from across the Empire State and provides great opportunities for networking, education, industry exhibits, and professional development.

The registration for the 2013 Annual Assembly will be through our website, www.nyschp.org. Visit our homepage and click 2013 Annual Assembly, then click register.

We look forward to seeing you at Turning Stone in May!

web link

Headlines

**NYSCHP News**

- 2013 Diabetes Practice Based Program
- NYSCHP President Visits D'Youville College of Pharmacy
- 2013 NYSCHP Annual Assembly: Medication Safety
- Chapter Spotlight: Leatherstocking Chapter

**ASHP News**

- Drug Costs to Rise as Much as 4 Percent in Hospitals, Clinics in 2013
- FDA Advisers Support Rescheduling of Hydrocodone Products
- No More Enforcement Discretion With Compounding Pharmacies, FDA Says
- ASHP Receives National Award for VTE Prevention Initiative

**Pharmacy News**

- Health Care Provider Alert: Another Counterfeit Cancer Medicine Found in United States

March 2013

**About NYSCHP**

**NYSCHP MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists is to represent its members and advance pharmacy as an essential component of health care. The Council provides leadership and resources to promote quality pharmaceutical services directed at appropriate medication therapy and positive patient outcomes.

New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists
210 Washington Ave Extension
Albany, NY 12203
(518) 456-8819

• e-mail link
Give HIV Drugs Straight Away to Slow Virus Down - And Reduce the Risk of Passing it On

Children's Hospital Staff, Volunteers Combat Rise in Babies Addicted to Prescription Drugs

Patients Rarely Told About Medication Errors

FDA Approves Sun's Generic Drug for Cancer

New York City to Restrict Prescription Painkillers in Public Hospitals' Emergency Rooms

In Face of Flu Vaccine Shortage, Delaware Relaxes Ban on Thimerosal

Prescription-Drug Monitoring Working, Doctors Testify

Proposed Bill Would Require a Prescription for Certain Allergy Medications

Cold Meds May Need Doctor's Prescription if Bill Passes

NYSCHP News

2013 Diabetes Practice Based Program
May 2-3 Turning Stone Verona, NY

Diabetes is a disease on the rise and requires all health care providers to have a working knowledge of management. This certificate program is a comprehensive program designed to provide pharmacists with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to care for diabetic patients. Certification in diabetes is necessary to ensure appropriate patient care and therapy with the goal of improving patient satisfaction, optimizing patient care, safety and minimizing adverse drug effects.

Topics: Foundational Evidence & Complications Medications Applications and Synthesis

Registration is now open at www.nyschp.org.

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
7272 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-657-3000

e-mail link
web link

NYSCCHP President Visits D'Youville College of Pharmacy
Mark Sinnett, PharmD, President, NYSCHP had the honor of presenting to the D'Youville College of Pharmacy on February 12, 2013 on Professionalism, Leadership and Change within our profession. Overall, Dr. Sinnett has presented these topics to over 500 students at 6 out of 7 NYS pharmacy

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About ASHP
ASHP is a 35,000-member national professional association that represents pharmacists who practice in hospitals, health maintenance organizations, long-term care facilities, home care, and other components of health care systems. ASHP is the only national organization of hospital and health-system pharmacists and has a long history of improving medication use and enhancing patient safety.
schools. Caption under photo Mark Sinnett, PharmD, President, NYSCHP following his presentation on leadership to the D'Youville College of Pharmacy (left to right, Teresa E. Donegan, PhD, Assistant Professor; Rebecca Waite, PharmD, Assistant Professor; Mark Sinnett, PharmD and Gary Stoehr, PharmD, Dean, School of Pharmacy)

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**2013 NYSCHP Annual Assembly: Medication Safety**
May 3-5, 2013 Turning Stone, Verona, NY Medication Safety

Topics ISMP medication safety Jerry Foundation Keynote REMS/Opioids Biostatistics Diabetes Certificate Program Multidose Medication Dispensing for Discharge NYS Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement Update NYS Board of Pharmacy Update

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**Chapter Spotlight: Leatherstocking Chapter**
Chapter Spotlight: Leatherstocking

The Leatherstocking Chapter of the New York State Chapter of Health System Pharmacists is experiencing a revival. With new officers and a new emphasis on continuing education our membership is starting to grow. We are gaining members with each meeting. At our last meeting we had a dinner program that outlined our goals for the coming year. We also enjoyed a live CE program entitled "Effective Leadership for the 21st Century" hosted in coordination with the NYC Chapter of NYSCHP, presented by Thomas D'Aunno, PhD. We enjoyed the program remotely and found it a very effective way to offer high quality programming to our chapter members. We hope to continue working to develop remote programming through the council. Many other chapters have made gracious offers to host programs and we are very appreciative of their support. Later this month we'll be having a 1 hour CE program, "Staying Current with Pharmacy Practice: Evaluating and Applying Evidence-Based Medicine" offered by Amanda Winans, Pharm.D., BCPS and Michael Bartels, Pharm.D., BCPS, Clinical Pharmacy Specialists at Bassett Medical Center, Cooperstown, NY. It will be held at a local favorite Italian restaurant. In June we will be hosting a 2 hour CE program presented by residents from Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center.

We'd like to thank Dr. Henry Cohen for graciously offering us the opportunity and look forward to the program.

The Leatherstocking Chapter has a long history of providing pharmacists with educational and networking opportunities. We are proud to have founding members still involved in our chapter and look forward to keeping up their strong tradition.

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**NYSCHP Calendar of Events**

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<td>NYSCHP Oncology Practice Based Program &amp; NYSCHP Pain Management Practice Based Program</td>
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**ASHP News**

**Drug Costs to Rise as Much as 4 Percent in Hospitals, Clinics in 2013**

ASHP's Annual Projection Forecast Helps Pharmacists, Hospitals Conduct Strategic Planning

2/15/2013

Costs for medications will continue to rise in 2013 by as much as four percent, according to a report published online today, ahead of print, by the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP), the professional journal of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). ASHP publishes this annual projection of drug expenditures to help pharmacy and health-system leaders plan drug budgets, which are a significant operating expense. The report, “Projecting Future Drug Expenditures in U.S. Nonfederal Hospitals and Clinics—2013,” by James M. Hoffman, Pharm.D., M.S., BCPS, et al, examines drug expenditure trends in 2011 and 2012, projects drug expenditures for 2013, and explores factors likely to influence drug expenditures. This report has been published in AJHP since 1992.

Read More

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**FDA Advisers Support Rescheduling of Hydrocodone Products**

{March 1, 2013, AJHP News}

Kate Traynor

BETHESDA, MD 13 February 2013 - A multiyear Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) effort to stem the abuse of hydrocodone-containing combination products received a boost in January when FDA advisers voted 19-10 in favor of reclassifying these products from Schedule III to Schedule II.

The vote followed two days of sometimes-emotional testimony, including tearful pleas from parents whose children died after becoming addicted to hydrocodone products and a presentation from DEA about the abuse, misuse, and diversion of these products.
No More Enforcement Discretion With Compounding Pharmacies, FDA Says
Cheryl A. Thompson

BETHESDA, MD 13 February 2013 - FDA last week signaled that the agency will stop exercising "enforcement discretion" toward companies that compound large volumes of sterile drug preparations and distribute them to health care facilities without receiving patient-specific prescriptions.

In a letter (PDF) to PharMEDium Services LLC, the director of FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research stated that the agency would no longer accept the company's approach to linking a patient to a compounded drug.

Read more

ASHP Receives National Award for VTE Prevention Initiative
Continuing Education Program Focused on Systems Approach, Interprofessional Teams

2/12/2013

The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) was recently recognized by the Alliance for Continuing Education in the Health Professions (ACEHP) at its annual conference in San Francisco in January 2013.

ACEHP gave ASHP its "Member Section Great Idea Award" for its continuing education (CE) initiative "Designing a Comprehensive Quality Improvement Intervention to Enhance Performance through Interprofessional Teams: A 2-Year Initiative on Managing Patients at Risk for Venous Thromboembolism (VTE)."

Read more
product was real, Altuzan is not FDA approved for use in the United States. The only version of bevacizumab approved for U.S. use is Genentech's Avastin. The products in question are labeled bevacizumab (Altuzan) 400 mg/16 mL with batch numbers and expiration dates including B6022B01, 11 2013 and B6024B01, 02 2013. The FDA also reminds healthcare professionals to be wary of any distributors offering deep discounts, which may indicate counterfeit or stolen products. Healthcare professionals should additionally inspect medication packaging to check for discrepancies in product name, labeling, or dosage forms.

Give HIV Drugs Straight Away to Slow Virus Down - And Reduce the Risk of Passing it On

*Daily Mail (UK) (01/17/13)* Bates, Claire

A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine shows that giving antiretroviral therapy to HIV patients as soon as they are diagnosed could slow the damage to their immune system and delay the need for long-term treatment. The results of the study were promising as they suggested that a year-long course of treatment for those recently infected could benefit patients by extending the time before they needed to start long-term treatment. The treatment course also reduced the levels of HIV in their blood, potentially minimizing the risk of passing on the disease, and boosted the numbers of the disease fighting CD4 T-cells in their system which would reduce the risk of them developing secondary infections. No evidence was found that indicated that early treatment would cause the virus to develop drug resistance or that coming off the treatment would damage the immune system or lead to unexpected deaths.

Children's Hospital Staff, Volunteers Combat Rise in Babies Addicted to Prescription Drugs

*Naples Daily News (FL) (01/14/13)* Bhasin, Sabina

Prescription drug abuse is a growing problem in Southwest Florida, as evidenced by the 800 percent increase in the number of opiate-addicted babies who have been born since 2005. However, officials at the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida are taking steps to address this problem. For example, the hospital has developed literature and videos that show what newborn babies go through when they experience withdrawal from prescription drugs. The materials, which aim to educate the public about the risks associated with prescription drug use during pregnancy, are available at hospitals, schools, and pain management clinics.

Patients Rarely Told About Medication Errors

*Reuters (01/11/13)* Seaman, Andrew M.

A new study reported in Critical Care Medicine has found that hospital patients and their families, particularly those in
intensive care units, are rarely told when hospitals make mistakes with their medicines. Though around 98 percent of mistakes examined in the study did not lead to patient harm, those that did were more likely to occur in the ICU. The most common errors in ICUs and non-ICUs were errors of omission, while harmful errors most often involved mistakes in calculating dosages or devices like IV lines. Researchers found that no action was taken following an error more than 50 percent of the time.

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FDA Approves Sun's Generic Drug for Cancer
Counsel & Heal (02/05/2013) Kankudti, Affirunisa
The FDA has approved the first-ever generic version of the cancer drug doxorubicin (Doxil). Name-brand Doxil is made by Johnson & Johnson, while the newly approved generic version is manufactured by Sun Pharma Global FZE. The approval is expected to help alleviate the shortage of doxorubicin in the country. The FDA noted that the generic form of the drug is of the same quality as the branded form, and noted that the generic drug will initially be available in 20 milligram and 50 milligram vials.

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New York City to Restrict Prescription Painkillers in Public Hospitals' Emergency Rooms
New York Times (01/10/13) Hartocollis, Anemona
New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has implemented a new policy to combat the problem of prescription drug abuse in the city. The policy prevents most patients at public hospitals from being given more than a three day's supply of narcotic painkillers, and prohibits them from being given long-acting painkillers like OxyContin at all. The policy also prohibits prescriptions from being filled after they are lost, stolen, or destroyed. Critics of the policy say that making prescription painkillers less available will hurt poor and uninsured residents who rely on emergency rooms as their primary source of healthcare.

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In Face of Flu Vaccine Shortage, Delaware Relaxes Ban on Thimerosal
Newsworks.org (01/23/2013) English, Taunya
Delaware has temporarily lifted its ban on vaccines made with thimerosal, a preservative that contains trace amounts of mercury. The move comes in the midst of an influenza epidemic and shortages of mercury-free vaccine. State law forbids doctors from giving vaccine containing mercury to pregnant women and children younger than age 8. The state enacted the ban years ago due to concern over an association between vaccines and autism, which has been largely disproved. Thimerosal has a proven risk-benefit profile, says Karyl Rattay, a pediatrician who is director of Public Health for the state. "Public Health wants to ensure
that vaccine is available for those who need it in Delaware," she said in a statement.

Prescription-Drug Monitoring Working, Doctors Testify

Rapid City Journal (SD) (01/12/13)

Doctors in South Dakota say that the state's prescription drug monitoring program appears to be working. The program is designed to track the prescriptions doctors write for painkillers, as well as the patients who use those drugs. The goal of the program is to reduce the abuse of prescription drugs in a state that has experienced the nation's largest increase in per capita sales of prescription painkillers over the past decade. Doctors say that the program's database helps them objectively determine whether patients legitimately need prescription drugs or if they are going to a large number of doctors and pharmacies in order to obtain large quantities of painkillers.

Proposed Bill Would Require a Prescription for Certain Allergy Medications

WATE 6 (Knoxville, Tenn.) (01/31/13)

The Tennessee state legislature is considering a bill that aims to help control the methamphetamine epidemic by requiring a prescription for any medication containing pseudoephedrine. The Tennessee Pharmacists Association opposes the bill, as it would require that allergy sufferers see a doctor in order to buy medications like Claritin-D, Advil Cold and Sinus or Sudafed. The organization recommends that lawmakers give the National Precursor Log Exchange, the real-time tracking system which was implemented in January 2012, time to make an impact.

Cold Meds May Need Doctor's Prescription if Bill Passes

Evansville Courier & Press (IN) (01/13/13) Clark, Paige

Lawmakers in Indiana are considering several bills that aim to cut down on the production and abuse of methamphetamine in the state. Some of those bills would require prescriptions for over-the-counter cold medicines sold statewide. Others would implement a two-year pilot program that would allow Indiana counties to adopt ordinances containing a requirement for cold medicines to be sold with a prescription. Still other bills include provisions that are aimed to address potential opposition to requiring a prescription for cold medicines, including one that would allow consumers to purchase a four month supply of pseudoephedrine for seasonal allergies and another that would allow local governments to deal with the issue on their own time table rather than in the two-year period that other legislation calls for.