

June 2005 Newsletter

New Board Members

Governor Freudenthal appointed Mary K. Walker, RPh; Robert "Rick" J. Davis, MD; John R. McPherson, DDS; and reappointed Gary W. Norwood, DVM to the board with an effective date of March 1, 2005. Their terms will expire on March 1, 2011.

Mary Walker is a graduate of the University of Wyoming, School of Pharmacy in 1974. She has been the Director of Pharmacy at United Medical Center in Cheyenne since 1987. Prior to that, she worked in retail and hospital pharmacy in Cheyenne, Thermopolis, and Newcastle. Mary is from a long-time pharmacy family who owned Newcastle Drug and Jewelry from 1910 to 1990. She is past president of Wyoming Pharmacy Association, Wyoming Society of Health-System Pharmacy and Zonta International Club of Cheyenne. Honors include Wyoming Hospital Pharmacist of the Year 1995, UW Preceptor of the Year 1995, and Wyoming Bowl of Hygeia Award 2004.

Dr. Davis was born and raised in Ohio, graduated from medical school from the University of Cincinnati in 1965, completed an internal medicine residency/cardiology fellowship from the University of Rochester and served as an Assistant Professor at the University of Rochester prior to relocating to Wyoming in 1973. Dr. Davis was in private practice with the Internal Medicine Group of Cheyenne from 1973 until he retired in January 2005.

Dr. McPherson is a native of southwest Wyoming. He attended the University of Wyoming earning a B.S. in Biology. He then attended the University of Nebraska, College of Dentistry earning a DDS. After graduating from dental school, he worked as an associate dentist in Roseburg, Oregon. He then returned to Laramie where he owns a private practice. Dr. McPherson is married to his wife Treasure and has two daughters.

Dr. Norwood was first appointed to the board in August 2003. Dr. Norwood was born and raised on a farm in N.E. Colorado, received a B.S. in environmental health and a D.V.M. degree in 1978 from Colorado State University. He completed a rotating internship in large animal medicine and surgery at Texas A&M University from 1978-1979 and worked in a mixed practice in Ft. Collins, Colorado before starting his own practice in Cheyenne in 1981. Dr. Norwood currently has a large & small animal practice. He has been married to Ann for 31 years and has two children.

Information from board inspector--Richard Burton, RPh

Patient's names, like drugs, when pronounced sound similar and are spelled similar. To avoid a patient receiving someone else's medication, Chapter 2, Section 17 (a) & (b) of the board's rules must be followed: (a) The pharmacist or employee under supervision must verify the identity of the person receiving any drug at the time it is dispensed to that person. If identity is not established by visual recognition, a driver's license or similar identification form is considered acceptable documentation. (b) The name of the person receiving the dispensed drug is to be recorded on the prescription document, patient profile or signature log if an agent and not the patient receives the drug. Identification of a patient is also important in situations involving fraudulent prescriptions. By requesting some form of ID, preferably a driver's license and writing down the information from the ID, can be valuable information for the police if the prescription is fraudulent.

Technicians are reminded to identify themselves as a "Pharmacy Technician" or "Pharmacy Technician-in-Training" in all telephone conversations while on duty in the pharmacy as well as wear name badges with the appropriate designation.

Changes to Schedule II Prescriptions, Richard Burton, Board Inspector/Compliance Officer

The following items can not be changed by a pharmacist: *the prescriber's signature, the patient's name, the date signed or the controlled substance prescribed (except for generic substitution permitted by state law)*

The following items can be changed by a pharmacist after contacting the prescribing practitioner and obtaining his/her approval: *drug strength, drug quantity, dosage form and directions for use*. Changes shall be made with a single line drawn through the original entry and the change written clearly above or below the original entry. Documentation shall be entered on the face or back of the prescription the name of the individual contacted for change approval, the date contacted and the pharmacist's initials.

The pharmacist (without contacting the prescribing practitioner) is permitted to make changes or update a patient's address as long as such changes can be verified.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), Denise Lane, Records Analyst

We now have patient profile request forms available for practitioners and pharmacists online at the board's web page: <http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us>

Pharmacies – We have been having some problems with pharmacists entering the supervising practitioner's DEA number instead of the physician's assistant's DEA number whenever they dispense a controlled substance. You will need to enter the DEA number for the practitioner who wrote the prescription, otherwise, we have information, which on the profile reports tends to be confusing. We have been contacted by physicians stating they did not write the prescriptions. On review, we discover the physician's DEA number was used, but the prescription was actually written by a physician assistant. In some cases, the physician assistant

who wrote the prescription was no longer supervised by the physician whose DEA number was used.

We're also having problems with pharmacies getting their data to Atlantic Associates in a timely manner. Please try to get your data submitted earlier than the 10th so that if you have any errors you have time to fix them and get the data resubmitted in time, if not we are two months behind with our information instead of just one, as we just get the data once a month.

Thanks to everyone returning your surveys in a timely manner--keep up the great work!!

Highlights from the February and April Board Meeting

Minutes are posted on the board's web page after approval at the next board meeting by the board.

- The board discussed and will propose rules requiring a certificate or associate of arts degree from a pharmacy technician training program accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists or hold a pharmacy technician training certificate issued by a branch of the United States Armed Forces as one of the requirements when applying for licensure as a pharmacy technician. A consideration for work experience in lieu of the above will be considered in the proposed changes.
- The board approved and the web page has been updated to allow database search for pharmacies (resident/nonresident), manufacturers/wholesalers/reverse distributors, and institutional pharmacies, in addition to pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and controlled substance practitioners which are currently available on the web site.
- As most are aware the 2005 Wyoming Legislature had an impact on the board. Most notably the following bills were approved and signed into law during this last session:

HB114 (resident/non-resident pharmacies), HB194 (Surplus Medication), HB258 (Telepharmacy) and HB293 (Methamphetamine precursors).

- DEA's position on schedule II prescriptions was discussed and the board did submit written comments per the DEA's notice in the Federal Register/volume 69, number 220. Please contact the board if you would like a copy of the board's written comment.
- CE requirements for Pharmacists- The board will be making significant changes in how CE is reported as well as the type of CE the board will accept. Look for the changes in the proposed changes in board rules.
- Proposed changes in board rules occupied most of the April meeting. A copy of the changes being considered may be obtained by going to the board's web page and looking under board agenda or by contacting the board's office. The changes are extensive and include the following areas: *telepharmacy regulations; requirement for criminal background checks for pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians in training; termination of doctor-patient relationships; pharmacist right to refuse dispensing a prescription based on personal beliefs; long term care pharmacy services; education requirements for pharmacy technician licensure; CE requirements for pharmacists; manner of issuance of written, typed or computer generated controlled substance prescriptions.*

I would encourage you to review the changes being considered. ***Board meetings are scheduled for June 28th and July 14th in Casper.*** Both meetings will involve reviewing draft changes. A rule-making notice should be issued in early August with a public hearing on proposed rule changes in Jackson on October 5, 2005.