

## **MARCH 2006**

### ***Controlled Substance Inventory***

On May 1, 2006, each pharmacy must inventory all controlled substances. Please review the following items when taking your inventory:

- Drugs in all schedules (II-V) must be inventoried.
- Write the name and address of the pharmacy and the date and time (beginning of business or end of business) on the inventory.
- The inventory must be signed by the pharmacist(s) responsible for the inventory.
- All controlled substances, including outdated drugs and drugs to be returned, must be included in the inventory.
- If the inventory is to be taken on a date other than May 1, 2005, then a written request must be made to the board's office at least 10 days prior to May 1, 2005. A written reply will be sent to the pharmacy submitting the request.
- A legible copy of the inventory must be sent to the board's office no later than May 15. The original must be kept on file in the pharmacy.

Contact the board's office if you have any questions.

### ***Pharmacy Law Manuals***

Pharmacy law manuals are now available in a downloadable PDF file from the Board's web page <http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us>. The Board no longer provides hard copies.

Questions--contact the board's office.

### ***Pharmacy License Renewals***

Retail and institutional pharmacy license renewals will be mailed to all resident and nonresident pharmacies in mid April. Remember to complete and return with the correct

renewal fee before June 30, 2006. License renewals postmarked after June 30th are subject to a late fee. Pharmacy licenses expire on June 30, 2006 and a pharmacy may not operate with an expired license. Contact the board's office if you have not received your license renewal by April 30, 2006.

**Proper Disposal of Medications** *(Erica Horinek, PharmD Candidate)*

Finding traces of medications (ranging from hormones to antibiotics to acetaminophen) in the ground and surface water is becoming more prevalent. So the question that arises from many pharmacists and patients: “What are we supposed to do with old medications and syringes?”

Generally, most pharmacies are utilizing reverse distributors to take care of nonreturnable products and biohazard waste companies should be used to dispose of old syringes. Both processes are most likely the best options, yet, not always feasible. Unfortunately, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as well as the majority of states, currently have no guidelines dealing with disposal of drugs; however, “the age-old wisdom of flushing medication down the toilet is probably the least desirable alternative...” according to Dr. Christian Daughton, Chief of the Environmental Chemistry Branch of the U.S. EPA. Therefore, if reverse distributors are not an option, it is suggested to secure the medication in “durable packaging” and place in the trash.

The April, 2004 Pharmacist’s Letter recommends keeping the medication in the original container (all patient data removed) with a childproof lid, and then placing in a brown paper bag or box. If the medication is liquid, place in a plastic sealable bag first to prevent leakage. The option of adding cayenne pepper or water and kitty litter to the medication may also be used to cause distastefulness, especially with controlled substances. When disposing of syringes,

encourage patients to check with the local pharmacies or hospitals to see if they will send the syringes to a biohazard waste company for the patient (this is a great way for you, the pharmacist, to become proactive in this situation!). If this is not an option, recommend putting syringes in a plastic milk carton or disposable sharps container and discard into the trash.

### **References**

1. Daughton DG. Cradle-to-cradle stewardship of drugs for minimizing their environmental disposition while promoting human health. II. Drug disposal, waste reduction, and future directions. *Environ Health Perspect* 2003; 111:775-85.

2. Boehringer, S. What's the Best Way to Dispose of Medications? *Pharmacist's Letter/Prescriber's Letter*. April 2004; 20: 1-5.

### ***Tips From The Inspector (Richard Burton, Board Inspector/Compliance Officer)***

As a reminder to the Pharmacist-in-Charge, make sure your pharmacy technicians have current licenses at the beginning of each year. Pay close attention to your pharmacy technicians-in-training after they have passed the PTCB exam (Pharmacy Technician Certification Board). Remind them that passing this certification exam **does not** license them as a pharmacy technician in the state of Wyoming. They must apply for pharmacy technician licensure by completing an application supplied by the board, provided evidence of current certification by PTCB, pay the required fee and meet all requirements of Chapter 10, Section 8 (a)(b)(c)(d) of the board's rules.

### ***Pharmacists Continuing Education***

Chapter 6 of the Board's rules has been revised. You are encouraged to review this chapter as significant changes have been made regarding the reporting of CE as well as the type of CE that will be accepted by the Board and the auditing of CE records by the Board. This article will highlight a CE program offered by NABP and that is accepted by the board. The Pharmacist Self-Assessment Mechanism (PSAM) offered by the National Association of Boards

of Pharmacy (NABP) will satisfy 4 (four) hours of your CE requirements. The PSAM is an evaluation tool that will assist pharmacists in obtaining objective, non-punitive feedback on their individual knowledge of current practice therapies. The assessment tool is applicable to general pharmacy practice and all practitioners. It consists of 100 multiple-choice questions and is divided into three sections of equal length. Each section can be completed in less than one hour though a maximum of three hours is allowed for each section. Once a section is begun it must be completed in its entirety. Once the PSAM is begun all sections must be completed in three weeks. The fee for the PSAM is \$75.

Questions in the PSAM are based on patient profiles and simulate real-life practice situations and patient therapies. Because the PSAM is an assessment and learning tool, the pharmacist is provided with feedback on each question.

Upon completion of the PSAM, pharmacists will receive a Record of Completion indicating their name and the date of completion. The PSAM will report the assessment evaluation score directly to the pharmacist in a separate report and will not report individual identified scores to the Board, NABP or any other person, group or entity unless so authorized by the pharmacist.

You will only need a copy of your Record of Completion if your CE records are selected for audit by the Board.

For more information about the PSAM, visit [www.nabp.net](http://www.nabp.net) or contact NABP at 847-391-4406 or via e-mail at [custserv@nabp.net](mailto:custserv@nabp.net).

### ***Selling Controlled Substances to Another Pharmacy or Practitioner's Office***

Remember all schedule II sales/transactions must be completed utilizing a DEA 222 form supplied by the pharmacy or practitioner requesting the schedule II item. All schedule III-V

transactions must be documented by invoice with a copy provided to the buyer and a copy retained by the seller. These transactions are treated the same as if they were purchased from a wholesaler.

Contact the Board's office if you have any questions about this record-keeping requirement.

***Alcohol or Drug Problem? Confidential Assistance is Available***

**Call George Vandel at (307) 472-1222**

**WPAP's website: <http://wpapro.org>**

If you are concerned about yourself or a colleague, please call the Wyoming Professional Assistance Program (WPAP) to discuss your concerns anonymously. We assist impaired pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to get the help they need without necessarily jeopardizing their licenses.

***Special Notice about This Newsletter***

The *Wyoming Board of Pharmacy News* had been designated as the official method of notification to pharmacists and pharmacy technicians licensed by the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy. Please read these newsletters and keep them for future reference. These newsletters will be used in hearings as proof of notification. Newsletters are available for review on the Board's web page (<http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us>).