

Special Notice

The Board of Pharmacy is seeking a licensed pharmacist in Wyoming who would be interested in serving on the Wyoming Professional Assistance Program's (WPAP) board of directors as a Board of Pharmacy appointee. If you are interested, please contact Jim Carder at the Board's office for more information.

January Board Meeting

The Board held a meeting in Casper on January 23rd and 24th. Highlights are as follows:

- Legislative initiatives for the 2003 session including:
 - Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Program--Programs like this are among the most effective tools to identify and prevent drug diversion at the prescriber, pharmacy and patient levels. Idaho, Utah, and Nevada currently have such a program. Jennifer Nevins and Jim Carder will visit the Boards in Idaho and Nevada in late February to gather data regarding their programs including start-up/operating cost, logistics, utilization by practitioners, confidentiality issues, and law enforcement issues. A report will be presented at the March 26-27 Board meeting.
 - Temporary Pharmacist License--The Staff will draft suggested language for presentation at the March meeting.
 - Administrative Penalty for pharmacies/manufacturers/wholesalers--Currently the Board may only revoke or suspend a registration, the Staff will draft suggested language for presentation at the March meeting to allow for an administrative penalty.
 - Criminal background checks for applicants seeking licensure as a pharmacist or technician--This was considered at the January 2001 Board meeting after a presentation

by the Wyoming Board of Nursing. The Staff will draft suggested language for presentation at either the March or June meeting.

- Updating W.S. § 33-24-122-- This statute which governs revocation, suspension, administrative penalty, or a letter of admonition for pharmacists will be reviewed, and if necessary suggested language for improvement will be presented at the March or June meeting.
- Regulating PBM's-- The Board may consider seeking statutory authority to regulate pharmacy benefit managers (PBM's). This will be discussed at either the March or June meeting. The Wyoming Pharmacists Association may be seeking legislation concerning the regulation of PBM's, and if so, the Board will probably defer to the Association.
- Florida License Transfer Program--Effective November 8, 2001, Florida began accepting applications for license transfer to Florida provided the applicant had passed the NAPLEX or NABPLEX not more than 12 years prior to application. The question has been raised "will Wyoming accept for license transfer applicants from Florida"? Due to Florida's requirement that the applicants must have passed the licensing exam not more than 12 years prior to application, Wyoming will not accept license transfer applicants from Florida.
- FDA's risk management program-Accutane® -- By this time all should have received some information regarding the dispensing of Accutane from either the manufacturer or FDA. If you have not received any information, please contact the Board's office.
- Patient Reminder Cards-- The Board in conjunction with The Wyoming Pharmacists Association will develop a patient reminder card, which will be distributed to all Wyoming pharmacies for distribution when prescriptions are dispensed. The goal is to encourage patients to have their practitioners write either the diagnosis or medical intent on each

prescription and if the practitioner's name/address is not on the prescription to print the same. The latter is most common when prescriptions are written from the ER or for patients being discharged from the hospital. Provided money can be identified to produce this document and the cost are not excessive, we hope to begin distribution late spring or summer. More information will be available in the June newsletter.

- Compounding Rules-- The Board is developing rules concerning compounding in retail and institutional pharmacies. A draft set of rules were discussed and modified at the Board meeting and are available for review on the Board's web page (<http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us>). The draft set of rules will be discussed at both the March and June meeting. The Board welcomes your input. Contact the Board's office if you are not able to view the draft set of rules from the web page or have any questions.
- Public Hearing on Proposed Rules-- A public hearing was conducted on January 24th regarding the notice of rule making which was circulated in early November. The Board adopted some rules, continued discussion to the March meeting on others, and voted to not adopt some rules. The rule-making order (02-01), which addresses those approved, continued, or not adopted may be viewed from the Board's web page (<http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us>). The rule addressing who may make the offer to counsel was not adopted, so the current rule still stands. The Board did receive numerous comments to increase the technician/pharmacist ratio from 2:1 to 3:1, and the Board may consider such action if a rule-making notice is issued this summer, if so the Board will more than likely require the offer to counsel to be made by the pharmacist if the technician/pharmacist ratio is increased.

- The next Board meeting will be March 26-27. Contact the Board's office for an agenda or view the agenda on the Board's web page.

Prescriptions for Controlled Substances—Things you need to know. (Don Deyo)

1. All prescriptions for controlled substances shall be dated as of, and signed on, the day when issued. This means that Dr. Smith cannot write methylphenidate prescriptions with advance dates on them to preclude office visits and yet maintain control of the medication supplied to patient. The proper procedure is to indicate on the prescriptions when it can be filled for the patient. The Rx can be held by the pharmacist or the patient.
2. A prescription may not be issued in order for an individual practitioner to obtain controlled substances for supplying the individual practitioner for the purpose of general dispensing to patients. This means that if Dr. Jones wishes to purchase CS drugs from a pharmacy for dispensing to patients: For schedule II, he must order drugs on DEA for 222. For schedules III, IV, V, he must order them from pharmacy by means other than a prescription. Sales and purchase records of CS must be maintained by both pharmacy and practitioner. Every pharmacy that sells CS by means other than prescription must have records readily available for the last two years of activity.

CS Prescribing by Mid-Level Practitioners (Don Deyo)

Mid-level practitioners consist of physician assistants and nurse practitioners. When Federal DEA registration became available to these practitioners, most, but not all of them became registered with DEA to prescribe Schedules III, IV, and V controlled substances. About a year ago, mid-level practitioners were given the opportunity to amend their registrations so as to prescribe Schedule II CS, in addition to CIII-CV. Once again, not all mid-level DEA registrants chose to do so. This created a situation in which the pharmacist cannot be sure if a PA or APN

can legally prescribe schedule II drugs. The only way to be certain, if you are in doubt, about the prescribing authority of a PA or APN is to have the prescriber FAX you a copy of their federal DEA registration. This document will clearly show what CS may be prescribed. It is possible, that at some future time, the Board of Pharmacy may have this information available for you, but not at the present time.

Newly Licensed Pharmacy Technicians

The following pharmacy technicians have been licensed since the December newsletter: Ann E. Bohnsack, William R. Broderick, Nancy L. Claman, Gina C. Eatmon, Michelle A. Fields, Summer D. Hamilton, Shelley R. Irwin, Hillary F. Kauchich, Rhonda D. Kraus, Janet K. Shatto, and Billie M. Williams.

Congratulations!

Alcohol or Drug Problem? Confidential Assistance is Available

Call WPAP at (307) 472-1222

If you are concerned about yourself or a colleague, please call Wyoming Professional Assistance Program to discuss your concerns anonymously. We assist impaired healthcare professionals 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.