

## **MARCH 2004 NEWSLETTER**

### ***Relocation of Board's Office***

The Board's office will move to a new location on May 1st of this year, if a lease can be secured. Sites have been reviewed and we will post the new address on our web page once the lease agreement has been approved. Phone/fax numbers will not change, but our email may change as we may join the State's intranet system for email.

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

On May 1, 2004, 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 date and time (beginning of business or end of business) on inventory.
- Inventory must be signed by the pharmacist responsible for the inventory.
- All controlled substances, including outdated drugs and drugs to be returned, must be inventoried.
- If inventory is to be taken on a date other than May 1, 2004, then a written request must be made to the Board office. 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. The original must be kept on file in the pharmacy.

### ***Prescription Drug Monitoring Program:***

The Board plans to implement a prescription monitoring program (PMP) for all schedule II-IV controlled substances beginning fall 2004. The June issue will have more details, but the following is where we are at this time:

- Grant secured from the federal government (\$212,000) to fund program. The grant will be available for use 7/1/04 through 6/30/06.
- Presentations scheduled for the following association meetings this June-Wyoming Pharmacy Association, Wyoming Dental Society, & Wyoming Medical Society.
- Rules governing the PMP were signed by the Governor on 11/12/03. All pharmacies should have received the updates for their law manual. Chapter 8 of the Controlled Substance Act Rules and Regulations addresses the PMP.
- Board's proposed budget for BFY 05-06 includes an additional position for the program.
- Beginning about mid July we plan to visit at least 12 communities and provide information and answer questions regarding the PMP. We will send notices to all pharmacists and practitioners about one week prior to each visit. The June issue will have more information regarding communities & dates. More than likely we will do an evening session (7-8pm) and repeat the same information the next morning (8-9am). Communities being considered include Casper, Cheyenne, Cody, Douglas, Evanston, Gillette, Green River/Rock Springs, Jackson, Laramie, Lovell, Riverton/Lander, Rawlins, Sheridan, Wheatland & Worland. **Any suggestions for locations in these communities to hold the meetings would be appreciated.**

***Personal Use Importation of Non-FDA Approved Medications - Robyn L. Nixon, PharmD D Candidate, University of Wyoming***

Procuring medications from pharmacies outside of the United States is becoming an alarmingly common trend. A significant number of the medications being imported have not received FDA approval for use in the United States (including, but not limited to, generic forms of medications where the brand-name formulations are still covered under US patent). Though

safety of these medications is of paramount concern, this activity is highly illegal. The FDA has developed a set of general guidelines to assist in determining when to exercise leniency and when to enforce discipline in situations involving the importation of unapproved drugs. The “Coverage of Personal Importations,” as the guidance is known, allows for a more permissive stance regarding the following situations:

“When 1) the intended use [of the drug] is unapproved and for a serious condition for which effective treatment may not be available domestically either through commercial or clinical means;

2) there is no known commercialization or promotion to persons residing in the U.S. by those involved in the distribution of the product at issue;

3) the product is considered not to represent an unreasonable risk; and

4) the individual seeking to import the product affirms in writing that it is for the patient's own use (generally not more than 3 month supply) and provides the name and address of the doctor licensed in the U.S. responsible for his or her treatment with the product or provides evidence that the product is for the continuation of a treatment begun in a foreign country.”

Several internet pharmacy sites have incorrectly interpreted these guidelines and have used them to support the legality of their business. An example is Rx Depot, an internet pharmacy based in the Canadian province of Manitoba. The Rx Depot website openly claimed that importing medications from outside of the US is legal if not more than a three month supply of the drug is shipped at one time. Rx Depot received a warning letter from the FDA enumerating the legal violations against the company (violations were not limited to misinterpretation of the preceding guidelines). The letter explained that when shipping medications into the United States, a pharmacy is responsible for learning and subsequently

complying with the laws of our nation. Rx Depot was informed of specific actions necessary to maintain operation of business with United States customers.

For more information on the FDA's personal importation guidance visit FDA's website at

[http://www.fda.gov/ora/compliance\\_ref/rpm\\_new2/ch9pers.html](http://www.fda.gov/ora/compliance_ref/rpm_new2/ch9pers.html)

### ***Licensed Pharmacists***

The following pharmacists have met requirements for licensure in Wyoming: Kristina J. Ballinger; Lisa T. Chan; Davette R. Ford; Agatha C. Graham; Marlo M. Johnson-Crosby; Amber D. Martinez; Lisa M. Nielson; James P. O'Bannon; Dale F. Resch; James R. Schick; Darin C. Seeke; Elizabeth A. Teini; John M. TeRonde; Justin S. Woods; Natalie L. Yount.

### ***License Pharmacy Technicians***

The following individuals have met requirements for licensure in Wyoming as a pharmacy technician: Kathryn Redgate; Maria D. Noldner; Jeremy J. Paskett; Margaret J. Clark; Jared M. Beutler; Kentlin J. Keebler; Debra L. Jones; Amanda L. Stilson; Diana L. Cate; Devin L. Strasheim; Jillian C. Walendorff; Haley M. Cole; LaDene J. Culver; Kathryn Elardi; Alisa D. Barbour; Melanie J. Fisher; Marsha L. Longmire; Devon M. McHenry; Dena Hogan; Jason J. Terwilliger; Rosemary Q. Statham; Heather E. Potter; Jennifer D. Long; Jenna M. Roth; Kimberly A. Outland; Kim V. Walters; Crystal D. Deitchler; Krystal C. Spatol; Robin L. Christensen; Jodi M. Marlatt; Chancy L. Henry; Vipul Patel; Laurel A. Oxford; Katherine M. Rhoades; Summer M. Hanson; Miranda S. de la Garza; and LaVon K. Robinson.

***Advanced Practitioners of Nursing*** The following advanced practitioners of nursing have met the Wyoming State Board of Nursing's requirements for prescriptive authority: Julie Brown, FNP (Boulder, CO); Richard Carver, CRNA (Evanston); Joshua Hamilton, FNP (Casper); Laura Heitz, FNP (Rock Springs); Connie Johnson, FNP (Wilson); Diane Jones, FNP (Harlowton,

MT); Debra McClure, FNP (Riverton); Lori McKinsey, FNP (Gillette); Susan Olson-Matthew, FNP (Sturgis, SD); Suzie Osterloh, FNP (Cheyenne); Lorraine Reed, PNP (Casper); Kimberly Purifoy, FNP (Cheyenne); Barbara Russiff, FNP (Gillette); Lorraine Reed, PNP, (Casper); Lara Taylor, FNP (Laramie); Rebecca White, FNP (Jackson); Starla Yerkovich, CRNM (Rock Springs)

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

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

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>).