

## ***June Board Meeting***

The Board held a meeting in Casper on June 26th. Highlights are as follows:

- Proposed revisions to the Board's Rules were reviewed. A rule-making notice was issued in August with the public hearing set for Wednesday, October 2 in Casper. All pharmacists, technicians, and pharmacies should have received a copy of the rule-making notice in August. The rule-making notice is posted on the Board's web page (<http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us>).
- Pharmacy Alerts - The Board will only issue pharmacy alerts in cases where there is clear evidence that the prescription was forged or prescription blanks were stolen from a practitioner's office. Due to limitations in the Wyoming Pharmacy Act and Wyoming Controlled Substance Act, the Board will not issue alerts for multi-practitioner/multi-pharmacy shoppers for controlled substances. Proposed language in the prescription drug monitoring program, which the Board will be seeking authorization for at the next session of the legislature, does clarify what information may be shared by the Board and to whom. If you have any questions regarding the pharmacy alert program, please contact the Board's office.
- The Board did renew the contract with the Wyoming Professional Assistance Program for the next two years with allowances for two renewals.

### ***Patient Identification (Mike Stadick)***

**Question:** Is identification required for all drugs picked up at the Pharmacy?

**Answer:** Yes, it may be by visual recognition or by driver's license or similar I.D. form if the person is not known to the pharmacist or employee at the pick up window.

**Question:** What else is required if someone else picks up the prescription?

**Answer:** 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.

**Question:** Where is this requirement found in the Board's Rules?

**Answer:** Check out Chapter 2, Section 17. Identification of a Patient

**Question:** How can you enforce these rules?

**Answer:** This is a difficult rule to enforce. However, many forgeries are prevented when the rule is applied. In many cases, successful forgeries happen when identification was not confirmed.

**Question:** Then, why don't I have to document that I verified the I.D. of the unknown person?

**Answer:** Good question. May be there would be fewer individuals getting away with forging prescriptions in Wyoming if the law required documentation that included picture identification and drivers license number when an unknown person picks up a prescription.

Hmmmmmmmm

### ***Newly Licensed Pharmacists***

The following pharmacists have been licensed since the December newsletter: Bruce A. Barnes, Laura R. Bittinger, Justin E. Blatter, Laura A. Bright, Karen R. Hansen, Suzanne E. Hightower, George W. Hrywnak, Kimberly K. Ingram, Teleatha L. Keenan, Brett W. Kvenild, Amy H. Longtine, Scott A. McCloud, Corwyn L. Moss, Jacqueline J. Odegard, Bradley D. Reuer, James J. Salzgeber, Jami Jo Schroeder, Cori L. Shaffer, Michelle L. Smith, Renee L. Snavely, Heather E. Stevens, Carolyn B. Wesley, Michael S. Wood. *Congratulations!*

### ***Newly Licensed Pharmacy Technicians***

The following pharmacy technicians have been licensed since the December Newsletter: Laura L. Bear, Cody R. Brown, Mindy M. Carstens, Duane S. Elliott, Elizabeth J. Green, Irving J. Haliburton, Tanya A. Howery, Zach S. Jordan, Sara A. Johnson, Cherron M. Leavitt, Karen L. Malicoat, Talena R. Maloy, Angela D. Murphy, Sally I. Musgrave, Michele L. Nation, Misty L. Nickerson, Raymond D. Picard, Wendy M. Pollard, Leah D. Quealy, Jason J. Sanchez, Ruth A. Seymour, Katherine D. Spatol, Don Van Ort, Laura J. Walker, Shae L. Waeckerlin, and Eileen M. Zofcin. *Congratulations!*

### ***Wyoming Professional Assistance Program***

WPAP has relocated to a downtown Casper office. They are now located at 100 North Center, Suite # 204. As of June 3, 2002, George A. Vandel became WPAP's full time executive director and his office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00-11:30am and 12:30-4:30pm. WPAP still provides the same program and is available to provide education about addiction, intervention, treatment, recovery, and monitoring regarding substance abuse issues. He may be contacted as follows:

Telephone: 307-472-1222 // Fax: 307-472-1221 // e-mail: [wpap@alluretech.net](mailto:wpap@alluretech.net)

### ***Responsibilities of the Pharmacist-in-charge (PIC)***

If you are the PIC it is important that you review and understand your responsibilities. Chapter 2, Section 9 of the Board's rules addresses PIC responsibilities. The PIC is required to spend at least 32 hours per week in the pharmacy if it is open more than 40 hours per week. If the pharmacy is opened less than 40 hours per week, the PIC must be in the pharmacy for 80% of the time the pharmacy is open. The PIC is responsible to ensure that all state and federal laws are followed in the pharmacy and to report any violation of these laws to the Board's office; establishing policies and procedures; assuring that all pharmacists, technicians, and technicians-in-training are currently registered or licensed with the Board; reporting any theft or loss of controlled substances to the proper authorities; if employing technicians-in-training establishing a program to train these individuals and assuring that they will not perform a pharmacy function, which they are not qualified to perform; assuring that all licenses/registrations are displayed, etc. As you can tell the duties of the PIC are numerous and it would be wise for each PIC to review the rules and clarify any questions they might have regarding their responsibilities. The "buck" stops with the PIC!

### ***Change in pharmacist-in-charge (PIC)***

With every change in PIC, a complete inventory of all controlled substances must be taken and submitted to the Board's office with notification of the change in PIC within fifteen days of conducting the inventory. It is preferred that both the outgoing and incoming PIC conduct and sign the inventory, but if that is not possible, then the incoming PIC must conduct the inventory. Chapter 2, Section 8 (c) of the Board's rules addresses this requirement.

### ***Prescription Scams***

Tis the season for bogus prescriptions. It seems we are observing an increase in telephone calls from folks stating to be the practitioner or an agent of the practitioner calling in

prescriptions for controlled substances. Sometimes it is for emergency prescriptions for a schedule II. Usually the name and address of the patient is fictitious, and the scam artist generally is successful. When pharmacists call in information about a forged prescription one common problem we are noting is that the pharmacist is not obtaining an ID. I would certainly encourage you to review the article by Mike Stadick in this issue, which deals with ID's.

### ***Pharmacy Technician-In-Training***

Technicians-in-training permits are valid for two years from the date of issue by the Board and are not renewable, and are only valid at the pharmacy whose name appears on the permit. The permit may be transferred to a new pharmacy, but will require submission of an application to the Board's office. A fee is not charged, and the permit may be reissued by the Board, but the original expiration date will still apply. Those folks who successfully pass the PTCB exam and receive certification must still apply to the Board's office for licensure as a registered pharmacy technician. PTCB certification does not permit an individual to work in a pharmacy as a technician. ONLY those individuals who are registered as a pharmacy technician-in-training or licensed as a pharmacy technician by the Board are permitted to work in the pharmacy and perform pharmacy functions under the supervision of a pharmacist. Chapter 10 of the Board's rules was revised this year and all pharmacies received their copy of the revised chapter this spring. I would encourage you to review this chapter and contact this office if you have any questions.

### ***Schedule II Controlled Substance Questions***

*Question: Under what circumstances can a schedule II controlled substance prescription be faxed to a pharmacy and considered the original prescription?*

Answer: Any long-term care facility (LTCF) resident or a terminally ill patient may have his or her prescription faxed to a pharmacy from a physician's office. The terminally ill patient may reside at home. The critical part is "LTCF resident" and "terminally ill" The prescription must be annotated to reflect the above status. Additionally those schedule II controlled substance prescriptions, which require compounding and will be administered by a parenteral route may be transmitted by fax from the practitioner's office. If in doubt, the practitioner should be contacted. Chapter 2, Section 20 of the Board's rules addresses this issue.

### ***For Those of You Interested in Numbers***

As of July 31, the following folks are licensed or registered in Wyoming with the board of pharmacy:

Pharmacists: 1011 (467 in-state, 544 out-of-state)

Pharmacy Technicians: 270 (257 in-state, 13 out-of-state)

Pharmacy Technicians-In-Training: 171

Resident Retail Pharmacies: 128

Non-Resident Retail Pharmacies: 225

Institutional Pharmacies: 29

Controlled Substance Practitioners: 2090 (MD, DO, DDS, DVM, PA, APN, DPM, OD)

Controlled Substance Non-Practitioners: 53 (law enforcement, clinics, research)

Prescription Drug wholesalers/distributors: 501 (includes medical oxygen distributors)

Controlled Substance wholesalers/distributors: 202

***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.