

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

STATE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1999

Recent Changes in Rules and Regulations

The rule-making order issued by the Board on April 30, 1999 was signed into law by Governor Geringer on June 10, 1999. If you have questions, please call the Board's office. The changes are summarized below:

- **Chapter 2, section 4.** The definition of "Prescription Drug" or "Legend Drug" was expanded to include "Rx Only" and those drugs included on the "Wyoming Dangerous Substance Listing".
- **Chapter 2, section 7.** Required references in a pharmacy were expanded and now include a current edition of *Facts and Comparison*, and a current drug interaction text, which provides at a minimum quarterly updates.
- **Chapter 2, section 10.** Prescriptions may now be electronically transferred between pharmacies. Pharmacies electronically transferring information must satisfy all information requirements of a transferred prescription, which is communicated directly by one pharmacist to another pharmacist.
- **Chapter 2, section 17.** Identification of a Patient was changed. If the person picking up the prescription is not the patient, the pharmacist or employee under supervision of the pharmacist must obtain the name of the individual. Previously you were required to obtain the name and address. The information can be entered on the prescription, patient's profile, or a signature log (signature log is a change). A pharmacy that mails the prescription, must

enter the name, address, and date the medication was mailed. This information is to be entered on the prescription or patient's profile.

- **Chapter 2, section 19 & 20.** Schedule II prescriptions can now be faxed from the practitioners office to the pharmacy, if one of the following are met: A prescription for a narcotic substance which must be compounded and is to be administered IV, IM, SC, or intraspinal // A prescription for a for a resident of a long term care facility // A prescription for a terminally ill patient.
- **Chapter 3, section 3.** Internship training requirements have been increased from 1500 to 2000 hours. The Board will accept up to 1600 hours which is obtained by participation in the Clinical Clerkship program , University of Wyoming, School of Pharmacy.
- **Chapter 6, section 4.** CE requirements for pharmacist were increased from 6 hours to 12 hours. This will take effect with the year 2001 renewal. Hours submitted must be earned during the year being renewed or the year immediately prior (i.e. 2000 renewal, CE must be earned in 2000 or 1999). The Board will carry forward excess hours submitted to a maximum of 12 hours. The Board prefers you submit your CE documentation with your renewal, and please send copies, not the original. The Board only keeps your CE certificates for 1 year.
- **Chapter 10, section 5.** A pharmacy may now petition the Board for an increase in the pharmacist/technician ratio. The current ratio is 1:1, but with Board approval, you may use 1:2.
- **Chapter 10, section 8.** This changed the pharmacy technician-in-training permit as follows: The permit will now be issued for a 2-year period, with no renewal allowed. The permit will include the name of the sponsoring pharmacy, and if the pharmacy technician-in-training

changes pharmacy, they must update their application and a new permit will be issued reflecting the correct sponsoring pharmacy. The permit's expiration date will not change from the original permit. The Board will correct those permits currently issued to reflect this change this fall. A late payment of \$35.00 will be applied to any certified pharmacy technician who fails to renew by December 31, and the license will be considered expired if not renewed by March 1. Establishes procedures for reinstating an expired certified pharmacy technician license (i.e. an expired certified pharmacy technician license may be reinstated if done so within 2 years, otherwise the technician must retake the examination).

- **Chapter 2, section 10.** Establishes a letter of admonition as a disciplinary measure for both pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technicians-in-training.
- **Chapter 2, section 11.** Established CE requirements for pharmacy technicians. 6 hours of CE will be required for pharmacy technicians beginning in 2001. The Board allowed considerable flexibility in how these hours can be earned. I would encourage pharmacy technicians or their supervising pharmacist to contact the office if they have questions on how this CE may be earned.
- **Chapter 10, section 1,2,3.** This is a new chapter and it establishes the Wyoming Dangerous Substances List. This list was amended to include codeine containing cough syrups and single entity ephedrine products. This means all codeine containing cough syrups as well as all single entity ephedrine products which were OTC, now require a prescription before they can be dispensed.
- **Chapter 6, section 11, Controlled Substance Act, R&R.** Allows a practitioner who calls in an emergency schedule II prescription 7 days (rather than 72 hours) to deliver the

prescription to the pharmacy. Also allows faxing of schedule II prescriptions if they meet the criteria outlined in Chapter 2, section 20 (c), Pharmacy Act R&R.

Wyoming Professional Assistance Program

Warning signs of impairment: **Physical Changes** include “change in appearance/poor hygiene”, “looks tired/insomnia”, “frequent shaking and sweating”, “loss of appetite”, “slurred speech”; **Behavioral Changes** include “loss of memory/blackouts”, “withdrawal from friends and social activities”, “extreme temper”, “mistrusting”, “anxious”, “depressed”, “irritable”; **Performance Changes** include “increased number of prescription errors”, “increased customer complaints”, and “frequent absences”.

If substance abuse problems are threatening your practice or that of a friend, the way out is to come in to WPAP. WPAP is a safe, caring and confidential alternative to traditional discipline. The WPAP is a proven, peer assistance aftercare and monitoring approach that has helped many of your colleagues. **For more information call: Wyoming Professional Assistance Program, Beverly Stalder, LAT, 307-472-1222.**

September Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be September 29 and 30 in Casper. The meeting will be held at Casper College, Student Center, Room 201. A public hearing for the proposed rule making will be the first item of business.

Controlled Substance Issues

The Commissioner of Drugs and Substance Control (Gay Woodhouse, Attorney General) issued an order effective June 21, 1999 scheduling the following substances; **Schedule III:** Formebolone and Methenolone (both anabolic steroids); **Schedule IV:** Sibutramine, Modafinil, and Butorphanol. This brings the Wyoming Controlled Substance Act in line with federal law.

The DEA has rescheduled Dronabinol (Marinol®) from schedule II to schedule III. Marinol® must still be treated as a schedule II as it remains a schedule II under the Wyoming Controlled Substance Act. I expect the commissioner will reschedule Marinol® this fall, but until that happens it must be considered a schedule II. Ketamine was placed in schedule III by the DEA on July 13, 1999. The commissioner will consider both these drugs this fall. It may seem confusing, but remember the stricter law (federal or state) is the one you must abide by.

Recently we have noticed patients who have been on large quantities of controlled substances for long periods of time, which the Board did not know about. If you have a patient who you feel fits the above, please contact the Board's office. We contact the prescriber to verify the medical need. If we have questions, we work with the Board of Medicine. It is important to remember you share the responsibility with the practitioner to ensure the medications prescribed and dispensed represent rational drug therapy.

Newly Licensed Pharmacist

The following pharmacist have been licensed since publication of the June newsletter: Kari L. Allar, Jennifer R. Avenson, Patrick J. Casey, Carol B. Dunn, Steven L. Gilbertson, Janelle L. Griffith, David L. Novick, Helen A. Scott, and Beverly A. Sullivan.

Pharmacy Technician Exam

The next exam will be October 1. All pharmacy technicians-in-training should have received a letter and application. A technician-in-training must become certified within the time period of their permit or must drop out of the program.

Special Notice About This Newsletter

The *Wyoming Board of Pharmacy News* has been designated as the official method of notification to pharmacists and certified 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.