Summary of the Actions of the ASHP House of Delegates
June 12 and 14, 2016

The House of Delegates
Ultimate authority over ASHP professional policies

- One annual session consisting of 4 meetings: 2 meetings at the ASHP Summer Meeting and 2 virtual meetings in the spring and fall
- Reviews policy proposals that have been approved by the Board of Directors
- Most of these professional policy proposals are contained in reports from ASHP councils

ASHP Policy Process

Policies reviewed

- Several policies were reviewed, revised, and voted on by the delegates
- One position statement on the pharmacist’s role in assisted suicide was discussed.
- New topics were submitted to the ASHP board
  - Drug dosing in ECMO

1601 - Safety of Intranasal Route as an Alternative Route of Administration

Source: Council on Therapeutics
To encourage the development of institutional guidance and advocate for further research on the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic characteristics of drugs not approved for intranasal administration; further,

To foster the development of educational resources on the safety of intranasal administration of drugs not approved for that route.

1603 - Stewardship of Drugs with Potential for Abuse

Source: Council on Therapeutics
To advocate for the inclusion of a clinically appropriate indication of use, the intended duration, and the goals of therapy when prescribing drugs with potential for abuse; further,

To encourage pharmacists to engage in interprofessional efforts to promote the appropriate, but judicious, use of drugs with the potential for abuse, including education, monitoring, assessment of clinical progress, and discontinuation of therapy or dose reduction, where appropriate; further,

To advocate that pharmacists lead efforts to prevent inappropriate use of drugs with potential for abuse, including engaging in strategies to detect and address patterns of use in patient populations at increased risk for adverse outcomes; further,
1603 - Stewardship of Drugs with Potential for Abuse (cont'd)

To facilitate the development of best practices for prescription drug monitoring programs and drug take-back disposal programs for drugs with potential for abuse.

1604 - Appropriate Use of Antipsychotic Drug Therapies

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To advocate for the documentation of appropriate indication and goals of therapy to promote the judicious use of antipsychotic drugs and reduce the potential for harm; further,

To support the participation of pharmacists in the management of antipsychotic drug use, which is an interprofessional, collaborative process for selecting appropriate drug therapies, educating patients or their caregivers, monitoring patients, continually assessing outcomes of therapy, and identifying opportunities for discontinuation or dose adjustment; further,

To advocate that pharmacists lead efforts to prevent inappropriate use of antipsychotic drugs, including engaging in strategies to detect and address patterns of use in patient populations at increased risk for adverse outcomes.

1606 - Drug Dosing in Renal Replacement Therapy

Source: Council on Public Policy

To encourage research on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drug dosing in renal replacement therapy; further,

To support development and use of standardized models of assessment of the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drug dosing in renal replacement therapy; further,

To collaborate with stakeholders in enhancing aggregation and publication of data on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drug dosing in renal replacement therapy.

1607 - Use of Methadone to Treat Pain

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To acknowledge that methadone has a role in pain management and that its pharmacologic properties present unique risks to patients; further,

To oppose the payer-driven use of methadone as a preferred treatment option for pain; further,

To advocate that pain management experts, payers, and manufacturers collaborate to provide educational programs for healthcare professionals on treating pain with opioids, including the proper place in therapy for methadone; further,

To advocate that all facilities that dispense methadone, including addiction treatment programs, participate in state prescription drug monitoring programs.

1608 - Therapeutic Indication in Clinical Decision Support

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To advocate that healthcare organizations optimize use of clinical decision support systems by including the appropriate indication for medications.

1611 - Developing Leadership Competencies

Source: Council on Education and Workforce Development

To work with healthcare organization leadership to foster opportunities, allocate time, and provide resources for pharmacy practitioners to move into leadership roles; further,

To encourage leaders to seek out and mentor pharmacy practitioners in developing administrative, managerial, and leadership skills; further,

To encourage pharmacy practitioners to obtain the skills necessary to pursue administrative, managerial, and leadership roles; further,

To encourage colleges of pharmacy and ASHP state affiliates to collaborate in fostering student leadership skills through development of co-curricular leadership opportunities, leadership conferences, and other leadership
1611 - Developing Leadership Competencies (cont’d)

promotion programs; further,
To reaffirm that residency programs should develop leadership skills through mentoring, training, and leadership opportunities; further,
To foster leadership skills for pharmacists to use on a daily basis in their roles as leaders in patient care.

This policy supersedes ASHP policy 1518.

1615 - Protecting Workers from Exposure to Hazardous Drugs

Source: Council on Pharmacy Management
To advocate that pharmaceutical manufacturers eliminate surface contamination on packages and vials of hazardous drugs; further,
To inform pharmacists and other personnel of the potential presence of surface contamination on the packages and vials of hazardous drugs; further,
To advocate that the Food and Drug Administration require standardized labeling and package design for hazardous drugs that would alert handlers to the potential presence of surface contamination; further,

1615 - Protecting Workers from Exposure to Hazardous Drugs (cont’d)

To encourage healthcare organizations, wholesalers, and other trading partners in the drug supply chain to adhere to published standards and regulations, such as ASHP guidelines and United States Pharmacopeia Chapter 800, to protect workers from undue exposure to hazardous drugs.

This policy supersedes ASHP policy 0618.

1620 - Promotion of Off-Label Uses

Source: Council on Public Policy
To advocate for authority for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate the promotion and dissemination of information about off-label uses of medications and medication-containing devices by manufacturers and their representatives; further,
To advocate that such off-label promotion and marketing be limited to the FDA-regulated dissemination of unbiased, truthful, and scientifically accurate information based on peer-reviewed literature not included in the New Drug Approval process.

This policy supersedes ASHP policy 1120.

1622 - Inclusion of Drug Product Shortages in State Price-gouging Laws

Source: Council on Public Policy
To urge state attorneys general to consider including shortages of lifesaving drug products within the definition of events that trigger application of state price-gouging laws.

1624 - Ban on Direct-to-Consumer Advertising for Prescription Drugs and Medication-Containing Devices

Source: Council on Public Policy
To advocate that Congress ban direct-to-consumer advertising for prescription drugs and medication-containing devices.

This policy supersedes ASHP policy 1119.
Questions or Suggestions?

Feel free to contact:

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