

SUMMER 2007

Maryland Board of Pharmacy news

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The Mission of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy is to protect Maryland consumers and to promote quality health care in the field of pharmacy through licensing pharmacists, registering pharmacy technicians and issuing permits to pharmacies, and distributors, setting standards for the practice of pharmacy through regulations and legislation, educating consumers, and receiving and resolving complaints from the public regarding pharmacists, pharmacies, and distributors.

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Revised Hospital and Community Pharmacy Inspection Process and Forms

By Mark Levi, Board President

As many may have heard, the Maryland Board of Pharmacy will be performing inspections of pharmacies in Maryland beginning the latter part of 2007. The Division of Drug Control has performed pharmacy inspections on behalf of the Board of Pharmacy for many years. The Board will recruit and train a pharmacist inspector who will provide day-to-day supervision of pharmacy technician inspectors. The use of technicians is a growing trend in many states due to the limited funds allocated for pharmacists

New updated inspection forms are also being developed for Board approval in the near future. The new inspection forms will be specific for either community or hospital pharmacies. Supplemental inspection forms (e.g., for sterile compounding, long-term care, waiver pharmacies) are also in development for use with the two primary forms as appropriate. The appropriate forms will be initially mailed to permit holders; however, all forms will be permanently posted on the Board's web-site.

The inspection forms will be quite different from the old inspection forms and may contain sections that do not apply to a particular pharmacy. The Board urges all permit holders and pharmacy managers to become familiar with the information requested on the forms, and to complete them to the best of their abilities. To expe-

dite on-site inspections, the Board encourages permit holders to also retain a folder with copies of ALL permits and licenses on-site at the pharmacy, and suggest that permit holders or their designees complete all applicable forms at least annually and keep a copy of them in the *folder*. This will ensure that pharmacy personnel will have accurate readily available information for referencing during an on-site inspection.

If each pharmacy maintains a *Board of Pharmacy folder* containing licenses, permits and other key information requested in the updated inspection forms, most inspections will be minimally distracting to the normal flow of business, and in many cases inspections will not exceed 2 hours. Of course, if there is no *folder* and pharmacy personnel can not locate necessary information and/or documentation, the inspection process may take substantially longer; which is NOT the Board's intent.

The Board's goal is that once its inspectors begin performing pharmacy inspections, they will be trained to avoid disruption of regular pharmacy operations to the extent possible. Feedback from pharmacies that are inspected regarding the knowledge and professionalism of Board of Pharmacy inspectors would be appreciated. ■

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Goodbye, Thanks and Best Wishes

Nearly every year in April one (or more) Board member's four or eight-year term ends, bringing with it a sense of loss of talent and commitment provided by the exiting Board member(s). This year, Chain Drug Store Representative, Joseph DeMino, Acute Care Hospital Representative, Jeanne Furman, and former Board President, Mark Levi, ended terms on the Board.

Joseph DeMino had continued a distinguished legacy left by his father, Leonard J. DeMino who served on the Board from 1976 to 1991. Serving as a member of the Board's Licensing Committee since 2004, Joe chaired that Committee from 2005 through 2006. During that period, Drug Therapy Management, Influenza Vaccine and Pharmacy Technician legislation was passed. Also, during his four year tenure on the Board, Mr. DeMino served on various sub-committees, including most recently the Wholesale Distributor sub-committee that developed language for possible regulations to be promulgated following the passage of related legislation during the 2007 Legislative Session.

Joe was the Board's assigned alternate delegate to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's (NABP) Annual meetings. He participated regularly in NABP's exam writing sessions and workgroups in developing state-specific questions for the MPJE. He was truly a 'good Joe' on the Board, always bringing with him creative and fresh ideas. The Board thanks Mr. DeMino for his numerous contributions over the past four years. He will be missed.

Jeanne Furman worked on numerous committees, sub-committees and task forces at the Board following her appointment in 1999. She served on the Board's Executive Committee in the capacities of Board Secretary and Treasurer and was the former Chair for both the Disciplinary and Public Relations Committees. As Chair of the Disciplinary Committee, Jeanne led members in the development of the Error Data Collection form. She also served as a member of the Medication Errors Task Force. Jeanne contributed numerous articles to the Board's quarterly newsletter and served as one of its primary editors. She has also provided long-term support as a member of both the Practice and Licensing Committees.

Ms. Furman testified before numerous State legislative sub-committees and chaired the Board's Automation Task Force. Additionally, she chaired the Prescription Legibility Task Force and worked with the Wholesale Distributor sub-committee. Jeanne worked on the Unlicensed Personnel Task Force, and provided support

to the Licensing sub-committee assigned to develop procedures for implementing the pharmacy technician program in Maryland.

Ms. Furman has been the Board's assigned voting delegate at the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's (NABP) Annual meeting. She presented an overview of Maryland's Medication Errors Task Force Report at the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's (NABP) District II meeting, and was later appointed to represent District II on the NABP Resolutions Committee at an NABP Annual Meeting. Jeanne was appointed by NABP to serve on several national task forces and committees covering a variety of practice issues. Ms. Furman also represented the Board as a speaker at numerous State association and pharmacy practice meetings, including MSHP, MPhA, PEAC, and the University of MD School of Pharmacy. Farewell Jeanne Furman and thank you.

Last but certainly not least, Mark Levi, the Board's immediate past President, ended his membership on the Board after serving it well from 2003 through 2007. He also served on the Board's Executive Committee in the capacity of Board Secretary from 2005 – 2006 and was a member of numerous committees, including the Practice (Chair, 2005 – 2006), Drug Therapy Management Evaluation, Legislative and Emergency Preparedness Committees. Mr. Levi was also a member of the Pharmacy Technician Workgroup, co-chaired the Wholesale Distributor Workgroup and represented the Board on the planning team to transfer inspection responsibilities from the Division of Drug Control to the Board of Pharmacy.

Mark's understanding of the nuances related to pharmacy operations and of the 'politics', through which the Board sometimes needed to navigate, greatly enhanced his leadership role on the Board. Throughout his four years, he gave 100%. When voted as Board Chair, he *filled in the gaps* as necessary to accomplish Board goals and initiatives. His easygoing leadership style always seemed to place Board and staff members at ease as they faced very challenging issues and/or activities. Farewell Mark, and thanks for your fine service to the Maryland Board of Pharmacy. The Board and staff will sincerely miss your guidance during Board meetings. Farewell also to the former Dean of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, David Knapp, who retired in June 2007. Dean Knapp and members of his faculty were partners with the

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

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Board in strengthening pharmacy practice in Maryland through support of various initiatives including Drug Therapy Management and Influenza Vaccines. His support of the Board's efforts will be missed.

The Board also sends best wishes to Donna Dorsey who also retired in June 2007. Ms. Dorsey was a long-term colleague having served as the Executive Director for the Maryland Board of Nursing,

The Board has thrived for over a century because of the service of, and partnerships with, persons like those noted above. Over the next decade (and century), it looks forward to the contributions of those who will follow in former members' footsteps to enhance the Board's mission of protecting Maryland consumers and promoting the quality of health care in the field of pharmacy.

LaVerne ■

COMPLIANCE NEWS

FD&C Act Holds Manufacturers Accountable for Availability of Medication Guides

** Courtesy of the NABP National Pharmacy Compliance News*

Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic (FD&C) Act, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires that Medication Guides be dispensed with products the agency deems a serious and significant public health concern. Medication Guides provide consumers with information about the risks and benefits of these drugs and are necessary for patients to use these products safely and effectively.

FDA is interested in receiving reports about all instances in which manufacturers, distributors, or packers are not complying with the Medication Guide distribution requirements as set forth in Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), section 208.24,

Distributing and Dispensing a Medication Guide.

The regulation requires manufacturers, distributors, or packers to provide authorized dispensers with Medication Guides – or the means to produce Medication Guides – in sufficient numbers to provide one to each patient who

receives the drug. The manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that pharmacists have the Medication Guides they need when dispensing these drugs to consumers. Problems related to the availability of Medication Guides are a labeling concern to FDA, and pharmacists are often the first to become aware of these problems. Voluntary reporting by pharmacists of these instances would assist FDA in ensuring manufacturer, distributor, and packer compliance with the Medication Guide regulatory requirement.

In addition to reporting to FDA, the agency advises pharmacies to contact the manufacturers directly to discuss problems associated with the availability of Medication Guides.

More information is available at www.fda.gov/medwatch/report/hcp.htm. Reports can also be made by phone at 1-800/FDA-1088. ■

DISCIPLINARY CASES

Colin Eversley, Compliance Investigator

Matthew C. Green - License # 13770

License to practice pharmacy REVOKED, effective May 15, 2007.

Eunice Oshodi - License # 14276

License to practice pharmacy REVOKED, effective May 1, 2007. ■

LICENSING CORNER

INFLUENZA VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

By Shirley Costley, Licensing Manager

Every year in the United States, on average, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from the debilitating and detrimental effects of the influenza virus, ranking it as the sixth leading cause of death when combined with pneumonia. Immunization is a very effective way of preventing or ameliorating influenza, and Maryland pharmacists are in a prime position to identify patients and educate them on their need for a flu shot. Increasing awareness and offering tailored immunization programs in more convenient and accessible pharmacy settings have led to the successful provi-

sion and administration of the influenza vaccine in Maryland.

The Board recently conducted a survey on how many vaccines were administered by Maryland pharmacists during the last flu season. With a total of 137 pharmacists certified to administer influenza injections in Maryland, the results yielded: of the 87 responses to the survey, 60 pharmacists administered 10,452 vaccinations. Congratulations to each and every pharmacist who has been proactive in increasing the level of healthcare and in improving influenza immunization rates. ■

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Save The Date – October 28, 2007 Volunteer Training

By Summar Goodman, Public Information Officer

The Maryland Board of Pharmacy's Emergency Preparedness Committee is planning a free live Phase I training program to be held at the Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys on Sunday, October 28, 2007 from 7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Participating pharmacists will earn four(4) hours of CE upon completion of the live training. Save the date now.

Topics to be covered will include volunteer corps updates, CRI (City Readiness Initiative) update, RSS (Receipt,

Store, and Stage) update, and "Bugs and Drugs", with the emphasis on the "Bugs".

The training will be open to both new recruits and seasoned volunteers. However, registration is limited and will be on a first come-first serve basis.

For more information, please visit www.mdbop.org, and go to the Emergency Preparedness/Bioterrorism link. You may also contact Summar Goodman, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator at 410-764-4755 or via e-mail at sjgoodman@dhmh.state.md.us. ■

New Dean of the Maryland the School of Pharmacy

By Summar Goodman, Public Information Officer

The Board welcomes and congratulates Natalie D. Eddington, PhD on her appointment to Dean of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the School of Pharmacy, making her the seventh Dean of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Dr.

Eddington, who is an alumnus of Maryland's School of Pharmacy, succeeds retiring Dean David A. Knapp, PhD following his outstanding 18-year tenure in which he led the School to national prominence. Please join the Board in welcoming Dr. Eddington. ■

PRACTICE COMMITTEE CORNER F.A.Q.

*By Dave Chason, Commissioner, and Anna Jeffers,
Legislation & Regulations Manager*

1. Is prevention of transmission of disease an acceptable indication of need for the sale of needles and syringes?

The Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.13.08.01 Sale of Needles and Syringes or Other Paraphernalia – Identification of Purchaser, and Record of Sale, sets forth that the sale of needles and syringes or other paraphernalia shall be made by the pharmacist only in good faith to patients showing proper identification and indication of need. Please be advised that the Board finds that prevention of transmission of disease is an acceptable indication of need for the sale of needles and syringes.

2. May a pharmacist in an inpatient setting pull out/withdraw the epidural catheter once it has been discontinued by the physician?

Please be advised that the manipulation of catheters in any setting is outside the scope of the practice of pharmacy. See Health Occupations Article, 12-101(s), Annotated Code of Maryland.

3. May a pharmacy advertise the name of practitioners on pharmacy store bags?

Please be advised that a pharmacist may advertise the name of practitioners on their pharmacy store bags so long as the ads on their store bags were not printed in exchange for referrals to the pharmacist or pharmacy for a product or service to be provided by that pharmacist or pharmacy. See Health Occupations Article, 12-313(b)(12), Annotated Code of Maryland.

4. What are the requirements for implementation of a refill reminder program?

Please refer to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Privacy website (<http://www.hhs.gov/hipaafaq/use/285.html>) which appears to address this question. Maryland laws and regulations do not contain more stringent requirements.

PHARMACIST ONLINE RENEWAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

By Tamarra Banks, MIS Manager

1) How long do I have to complete the application on-line?

A: You may renew your license beginning two months before your pharmacist license expires. You will not be able to renew your license after midnight, five (5) days before your license expires.

2) I'm having trouble logging on the system because I forgot my password.

A: Your login ID is your LICENSE NUMBER, and your password was originally set to the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN). If your license number is only 4 digits long, make sure to add a zero on the front (e.g. 01235 not 1235). If you are still having problems accessing the system, check to see if you are an Audit Candidate. If so, you must submit a paper application along with your original continuing education certificates.

If you changed your password the last time you logged on, or don't remember your password, send an e-mail to MDBOP@DHMH.STATE.MD.US and include your name and license number. Upon receipt, the MIS Unit will reset your password back to the last 4 digits of your SSN.

3) My computer crashed while I was logged on the system.

A: Make sure you are using Internet Explorer version 6 or higher. The system is unstable in a Macintosh environment and you may also experience difficulty from AOL or COMCAST browsers.

If you have a problem while making a payment, your payment may have been accepted. Once you select the payment type, the Board system transfers your transaction to the Bank of America's web site. Board staff can access the Bank

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PEAC CE Event

Submitted by Tony Tommasello

The Pharmacists' Education and Assistance Committee is offering its 7th annual CE event on Thursday, October 18, 2007, at the Riderwood Village in Silver Spring, Maryland. This 7 credit program entitled The Bottom Line on Addiction and Recovery: Practical Lessons and Guidance for Pharmacists, Colleagues and Employers provides real life experiences of addiction by pharmacists who will tell their personal stories. Experts in the field of substance abuse treatment will describe the best practice approaches supported by research evidence. Participants will learn how to respond effectively and therapeutically to typical defense mechanisms frequent-

ly used by substance abusers, and how to make use of PEAC in response to suspicions that a pharmacist, student pharmacist, or technician is involved in substance abuse.

Substance abuse and dependence occur at an estimated rate of 10% to 15% and is considered to be an occupational hazard for health professionals. The program will help pharmacists deal more effectively with this workplace problem by becoming more aware of the condition and its solution. For more information contact the Pharmacists' Education and Assistance Committee at 410-983-0302 or visit our website at www.peacmaryland.org. ■

FIRST PLACE WINNER AT 2007 FLOWER MART

By Summar Goodman, Public Information Officer

The Board of Pharmacy in partnership with the Maryland Pharmacy Coalition (MPC) participated in the 90th Flower Mart in Baltimore's Mt. Vernon community on May 4, 2007. Board Member Mayer Handelman greatly contributed to the Board's planning efforts. Board President Mark Levi, along with Board Member Cynthia Anderson, pharmacist Sheila Dermer and students from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy provided consultation to the many consumers who visited the booth. Representatives from the Consumer's Union in Washington, D.C., Bill Benson and Ginger Skinner, were also on hand to answer questions and hand out literature. Consumers were also presented with information and promotional materials relating to nutrition, diabetes, cholesterol, blood pressure, smoking cessation, osteoporosis, and over-the-counter prescriptions. Blood pressure monitoring and a diabetes risk assessment survey were administered by the pharmacy students.

The Board's booth won the **First Place Ribbon** for the Best Decorated Booth and was designed by Public Information Officer, Summar J. Goodman. The Board's Administration and Public Support Manager, Patricia Gaither, brought the design to life and created a wonderful wreath decoration that contributed to the award-winning booth. The wreath served as a raffle prize for consumers, and Ms. Terri Mitchell was the winner.

"The outreach effort was a huge accomplishment thanks to volunteers from the MPC (MSHP, MPhA, MD ASCP, SOP) other volunteer pharmacists, students, the many donors of consumer give-aways*, Board members and its entire staff," commented Executive Director LaVerne Naesea. She commended everyone for the dedication and diligence they provided in making this outreach successful. The Board looks forward to future participation in the Flower Mart. To volunteer for next year's Flower Mart or any upcoming consumer event, please contact Summar J. Goodman, at 410-764-4755 or email sjgoodman@dhhm.state.md.us.

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INFORMATION STATION

National Pharmacist Month

Submitted by Howard Schiff

The Maryland Pharmacy Coalition (MPC) comprised of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, the Maryland Society of Health System Pharmacists, the Maryland branch of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, the Maryland Pharmaceutical Society, and the Student Government Alliance of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, serves as a united voice on common interests to Maryland pharmacists, Maryland pharmacy associations, and the people they serve.

2004 marked the launch of American Pharmacists Month after celebrating National Pharmacy Week for nearly eight decades. The expansion to a month was a response to comments that a week was not enough time to fully promote the expanding role of the pharmacist. And while the length of time was changed, the goal of the event has remained the same: to highlight the importance of the pharmacists' value to the healthcare system and their role as medication experts.

Since that time, American Pharmacists Month has continued to grow. In 2005, President Bush acknowledged the important role pharmacy professionals play in the lives of Americans.

This year, the MPC will have a banner placed across Pratt Street in downtown Baltimore heralding American Pharmacists Month. A supplement with articles from all the organizations will appear in either the Baltimore Sun or Examiner, Washington Post or the community newspapers owned by Patuxent Publishing. Additionally, Maryland School of Pharmacy students will appear at 6 a.m. on WJZ's "Manic Monday". Other news sources are being contacted to publicize the occasion.

Pharmacists are encouraged to celebrate with "brown bag" events, appearances at local events and distribute handouts available from the national organizations to highlight the recurring theme, "Know your Medicine, Know your Pharmacist." ■

FIRST PLACE WINNER AT 2007 FLOWER MART

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*Companies that provided donations to the Flower Mart Event included:
Abbott Laboratories
Astra Zeneca
Bristol Myers Squibb
CVS

Eisai
Forest Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Glaxo
Neighborcare
Novartis
Ortho Biotech Products

Pfizer
Proctor and Gamble
Rite Aid Corporation
Roche
Sanofi-Aventis
Tap Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Watson Specialty Products

Wyeth
Visit the Board's website at www.mdbop.org to view the Flower Mart photographs. ■

PHARMACIST ONLINE RENEWAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS *...continued from page 5*

of America site if you want to verify that your payment was made. To verify payment if your system crashed during the payment process, send an e-mail to: mdbop@dhhm.state.md.us and include your name and license number. Remember, only click AUTHORIZE one time - every time you click 'authorize', a payment will be made.

4) Can I make changes to the information I provide after I renew on-line?

A: Yes, if you have not completed the entire process including entering the payment method, you may go back and make changes. You may change everything except your name, SSN, birth date, race or gender. Documentation must be provided to the Board in order to change this information. Once you have paid, clicked authorize and completed the renewal process, you may only review your information until it is time for you to renew again.

More Frequently Asked Questions are available on the Online Renewal system pages.



Maryland Board of Pharmacy

How are we doing?

Please telephone or e-mail the Board staff your questions and comments.

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Meetings

The Pharmacy Board meetings are open to the public from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215. The Board encourages all interested parties to attend. Dates are:

May 16, 2007

June 20, 2007

July 18, 2007

August 22, 2007

September 19, 2007

Address or Employment Change

Submit the *Pharmacist Change of Information form* on our website. Go to www.mdbop.org and click on *Forms & Publications*.

Special Notice

The Maryland Board of Pharmacy Newsletter is considered an official method of notification to pharmacists and pharmacies. **These Newsletters may be used in administrative hearings as proof of notification.** Please read them carefully and keep them in the back of the Maryland Pharmacy Law Book for future reference.

Editorial Committee:

Summar Goodman, Patricia Gaither, LaVerne Naesea, Jeanne Furman and Donald Taylor

Newsletter Layout and Design: Summar Goodman

*Have an Upcoming Event or Story Ideas? E-mail to sjgoodman@dhhm.state.md.us

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Rodney H. Taylor

Executive Director: LaVerne G. Naesea

Maryland Board of Pharmacy

Note: Procedures for submission and approval of Pharmacy Technician Training Programs will be provided on the Board's website. Visit www.mdbop.org for details.

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Maryland Board of Pharmacy



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