



APhA–ASP Rules for the Patient Counseling Competition Final Round

The final round of the Patient Counseling Competition is much like the preliminary round, but there are some important differences. As with the preliminary round, you will be judged on your ability to communicate information about medications to patients. The evaluation will again be half on content and half on style. The decision of the judges will be final.

In the final round, you will choose a random prescription from a bowl. The coordinator will go out the door of the pharmacy. The patient will then enter the pharmacy, bringing you the prescription order to be filled. You should call the patient by the name that appears on the prescription order. The patient will return in five minutes. You will then have five minutes to study the prescription order, the patient profile, and the reference sources available. You will not be required to actually fill the prescription order, but there are several products that are on the counter which represent the stock in your pharmacy. You should use whatever product is appropriate to assist you in counseling your patient. You will see that some demonstration may be required.

After five minutes, the patient will return to be counseled. You may counsel the patient orally, by using written handout information, and by demonstrating how to use the product itself. In this final round, the patient will display a personality characteristic that will challenge your ability to counsel on proper use of the product. A one-minute warning will be given and then the technician will come in and turn off the video recorder after the five minute time limit is reached.