



**2007 Action
of the
APhA House of Delegates
Atlanta
March 16-19, 2007**

The following policies were adopted by the 2007 APhA House of Delegates and are now official Association policy:

Privacy of Pharmacists' Personal Information

1. APhA supports protecting pharmacist, student pharmacist, and pharmacy technician personal information (e.g. home address, telephone, and personal email address).
2. APhA opposes legislative or regulatory requirements that mandate the publication of pharmacist, student pharmacist and pharmacy technician personal information (e.g. home address, telephone, and personal email address).
3. APhA encourages state boards of pharmacy to remove from their Web sites personal addresses, phone numbers, email, and other non-business contact information of pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians.

Pharmacist Primary Care

1. APhA recommends the use of pharmacists as primary care providers, alone or in collaboration with other providers, in community pharmacy based health clinics.

Biologic Drug Products

1. APhA encourages the development of safe, effective, and affordable therapeutically equivalent generic versions of biologic drug products, including clinical trials that assess safety.
2. APhA encourages the FDA to develop a scientifically-based process to approve therapeutically equivalent generic versions of biologic drug products.
3. APhA should actively support legislation to hasten the development of an efficient regulatory process to approve therapeutically equivalent generic versions of biologic drug products.
4. APhA should initiate educational programs for pharmacists and other health care professionals concerning the determination of therapeutic equivalence of generic versions of biologic drugs products.

Re-Distribution of Previously Dispensed Medications

1. As a matter of patient safety, APhA opposes the re-dispensing of a previously dispensed medication once it has been out of the control of a health care professional.
 2. APhA supports a public awareness program to explain why the re-dispensing of a previously dispensed medication once it is out of the control of the healthcare professional is a public health safety concern.
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Adopted New Business Items

The following Items of New Business were adopted by the 2007 APhA House of Delegates and are now official Association policy:

New Business Item #1 – Pharmacy Personnel Immunization Rates

1. APhA supports efforts to increase immunization rates of healthcare professionals, for the purposes of protecting patients, and urges all pharmacy personnel to receive all immunizations recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for healthcare workers.
2. APhA encourages employers to provide necessary immunizations to all pharmacy personnel.
3. APhA encourages federal, state, and local public health officials to recognize pharmacists as first responders (like physicians, nurses, police, etc) and prioritize pharmacists to receive medications and immunizations.

New Business Item #2 – Medication Reconciliation the Pharmacists' Responsibility -

1. APhA recognizes pharmacists as the health care team member responsible for the medication reconciliation process when patients move between practice settings within the continuum of care.

New Business Item #4 – WHO Policy on Infectious Diseases

1. APhA supports the World Health Organization's (WHO) requirements for accurate and expeditious reporting of infectious diseases from all countries, including unrestricted sharing of infectious substance samples with WHO.
 2. APhA supports access to affordable vaccines in all countries.
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Referred Items

The following two Items of New Business were considered by the House and referred. They are not official APhA policy.

The APhA House of Delegates referred New Business Item #3 to the APhA Board of Trustees for action to consider strategies to increase public and private support for pharmacy practice research funding. The language as originally submitted:

APhA supports the establishment of an inter-professional task force to assess the feasibility and potential impact of the establishment of a National Institute of Pharmacy Practice

Research (NIPPR) – either as an independent entity, or as the pharmacy research arm of an existing agency or national institute.

The APhA House of Delegates referred New Business Item #5 to the APhA Board of Trustees for assignment to the APhA Policy Committee. The language as originally submitted:

1. APhA urges the FDA to approve the nonprescription availability of nicotine nasal spray, nicotine inhalation system, and varenicline tablets dispensed by a pharmacist.
 2. APhA urges Pfizer to work with the FDA in switching these products to nonprescription status dispensed by a pharmacist at the earliest possible time.
 3. APhA urges the sponsors and administrators of drug benefit programs to include coverage for each of the products that has been approved by the FDA as an aid to smoking cessation.
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Policy Review Process

As part of the continuing review of existing policy, the House amended, archived, and rescinded existing policy on a range of topics.

The House amended the following statements:

2007 *Impact of the Pharmacists' Working Conditions on Public Safety*

- 2001**
1995
1. APhA recognizes that the quality of a pharmacist's work-life affects public safety and that a working environment conducive to providing effective pharmaceutical care is essential.
 2. APhA opposes the practice of imposing minimum numbers of prescriptions which pharmacists are to dispense in a given period of time. Further, APhA opposes employment practices that evaluate a pharmacist's performance on the basis of set quotas of work performed.
 3. APhA opposes employment practices that limit a pharmacist's ability to provide effective pharmaceutical care.

(Am Pharm NS35(6):36 June 1995) (JAPhA NS4(5):Suppl. 1:58 September/October 2001) (Reviewed 2001)

2007 *Employment Standards Policy Statement*

1970
The employment relationship between pharmacists and their employers must start with the principle that pharmacists have a professional, inherent right to practice in a manner which will engender self-respect in pursuit of their professional and economic objectives.

It is the policy of APhA to further the following basic employment standards:

1. Employers are obligated to respect the professional status, privileges, and responsibilities of employed pharmacists.
2. Employers are obligated to provide working conditions that enhance the ability of employed pharmacists to utilize their full professional capacity in providing pharmaceutical service to the public.
3. Employers are obligated to provide employed pharmacists opportunities to increase their professional knowledge and experience.
4. Employers are obligated to fairly compensate employed pharmacists commensurate with their duties and performances. Such compensation should include benefits generally available to other professionals including, but not limited to, vacation, sick leave, insurance plans, and retirement programs.
5. Employed pharmacists are obligated to use their best efforts to further the services offered to the public by their employers.

6. Employed pharmacists are obligated to unhesitatingly bring to the attention of their employers all matters which will assist the employers in maintaining professional standards and successful practices.
7. Employed pharmacists are obligated, when negotiating compensation, to consider not only prevailing economic conditions in their community, but also their economic position relative to other health care professionals.
8. Employed pharmacists are obligated to recognize that their responsibility to the individual sick person includes not depriving the public of their pharmaceutical services by striking in support of their economic demands or those of others.
9. Both employers and employed pharmacists are obligated to reach and maintain definite understandings with regards to their respective economic rights and duties by resolving employment issues fairly, promptly, and in good faith.

It is the policy of APhA to support these basic employment standards by:

1. Encouraging and assisting state pharmacists associations and national specialty associations to establish broadly representative bodies to study the subject of professional and economic relations and to establish locally responsive guidelines to assist employers and employed pharmacists in developing satisfactory employment relationships.
2. Encouraging and assisting state pharmacists and national specialty associations to use their good offices, whenever invited, to resolve specific issues which may arise.
3. Assisting state pharmacists and national specialty associations to use their good offices, whenever invited, to resolve specific issues which may arise.
4. Assisting state pharmacists and national specialty associations to develop procedures for mediation or arbitration of disputes which may arise between employers and employed pharmacists so that pharmacists can call on their profession for such assistance when required.
5. Increasing its activities directed towards educating the profession about the mutual employment responsibilities of employers and employed pharmacists.
6. Developing benefits programs wherever possible to assist employers in providing employed pharmacists with economic security.
7. Continuously reminding pharmacists that the future development and status of pharmacy as a health profession rests in their willingness and ability to maintain control of their profession.

(JAPhA NS10:363 June 1970) (Reviewed 2001)

2007 ***Recycling of Pharmaceutical Packaging***

1992 APhA supports aggressive research and development by pharmacists, pharmaceutical manufacturers, waste product managers, and other appropriate parties of mechanisms to increase recycling of non-hazardous, pharmaceutical, packaging materials, and to reduce unnecessary waste in pharmaceutical product packaging, and to minimize the opportunity for counterfeiters to use discarded packaging.

(Am Pharm NS32(6):516 June 1992) (Reviewed 2004)

2007 ***Directory Listings for Pharmacies***

2002 APhA encourages the listing of all pharmacies in telephone, Internet and other
1968 directories under "Pharmacies."

(JAPhA NS8:380 July 1968) (JAPhA NS42(5): Suppl. 1:S62 September/October 2002) (Reviewed 2006)

The House also archived statements on a range of issues. A compilation of 2007 archived policy is available upon request to the APhA Speaker of the House at hod@aphanet.org.

APhA House Rules Review Committee

The APhA House of Delegates adopted the report of the APhA House Rules Review Committee making modifications to its operations. The Report is posted at www.aphanet.org/hod as is also available upon request to the APhA Speaker of the House, hod@aphanet.org.

The next meeting of the APhA House of Delegates will be held in conjunction with APhA2008, March 14 and 17, 2008, in San Diego. Periodic reports concerning the action of the 2007 APhA House and information on the 2008 session will be posted at www.aphanet.org/hod.