

What Has TPA Done for Members Lately?

TPA Is About Advocacy, Education and Information, and Products and Services...

PROACTIVE ADVOCACY

The Tennessee Pharmacists Association works every day for you, your patients and the pharmacy profession. Dedicated to advancing, representing and protecting the practice of pharmacy and pharmacists in all practice settings in Tennessee, TPA is the only organization with this mission.

NATIONAL LEVEL ADVOCACY...

TPA staff has met and communicated with the following groups at the national level:

- ... Tennessee's U.S. Congressional Delegation and Staff
- ... Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – CMS
- ... Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Organizations – JCAHO
- ... Pharmacy Quality Alliance – PQA
- ... United States Pharmacopeia - USP
- ... American Pharmacists Association – APhA
- ... American Society of Health-System Pharmacists – ASHP
- ... National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations – NASPA
- ... National Community Pharmacists Association – NCPA
- ... National Association of Chain Drug Stores – NACDS
- ... Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy – AMCP
- ... Drug Enforcement Administration – DEA

Topics discussed with these numerous groups includes (but is not limited to):

- ... Tamper-resistant prescription pad issue
- ... Average Manufacturer's Price (AMP) issue in Medicaid
- ... eHealth and ePrescribing
- ... Prompt payment for Medicare Part D claims
- ... Recognition of pharmacists as health care providers
- ... Plans for year 4 of the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefit
- ... Commented on USP <797>
- ... Commented on proposed removal of exemption disallowing faxed prescription
- ... Commented on MedGuides
- ... Commented on the new proposed class of behind-the-counter medications
- ... Promoted pharmacist-delivered Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Services
- ... Commented on DEA proposed rules for ePrescribing of Controlled Substances

STATE LEVEL ADVOCACY...

TPA staff has met and communicated with the following groups at the state level

- ... Tennessee General Assembly
- ... Tennessee Board of Pharmacy
- ... Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance
- ... Tennessee Department of Health
- ... Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- ... TennCare
- ... Cover Tennessee – Including CoverKids, CoverTN, and AccessTN
- ... Tennesseans Improving Patient Safety Committee
- ... Tennessee Folic Acid Council
- ... Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC) Area Agency on Aging and Disability
- ... BlueCross-BlueShield of Tennessee
- ... Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians
- ... Tennessee Dental Association
- ... Tennessee Hospital Association
- ... Tennessee Nurses Association
- ... Qsource
- ... Tennessee Healthcare Coalition
- ... Tennessee Medical Association
- ... Healthcare 21 – HC21
- ... Tennessee Office of eHealth Initiatives

COLLEGES OF PHARMACY

- ... Belmont University School of Pharmacy
- ... East Tennessee State University College of Pharmacy
- ... Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy
- ... Union University School of Pharmacy
- ... University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Pharmacy

MANAGED CARE PLANS

- ... AmeriChoice
- ... John Deere/UnitedHealthcare
- ... Windsor
- ... AmeriGroup
- ... PHP/Cariten
- ... Healthspring
- ... TLC

PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS

- ... CVS/Caremark
- ... Express Scripts
- ... Medco

CHAINS

- ... Brooks Eckerd
- ... Fred's
- ... Publix
- ... Walgreens
- ... CVS Pharmacy
- ... K-Mart
- ... Rite Aid
- ... Wal-Mart Pharmacy
- ... Food City
- ... Kroger
- ... Target

Highlights of recent TPA activity at the state level:

- ... Worked with TennCare and SXC to resolve pharmacy program transition issues
- ... Passed legislation to require the Board of Pharmacy to notify pharmacists of changes in laws, rules, policies, or guidelines affecting practice

Highlights of recent TPA activity at the state level (continued):

- ... Passed legislation to move the Board of Pharmacy to the Department of Health
- ... Worked with QSource on CMS Pharmacy Patient Safety Initiative
- ... Passed Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) legislation mandating prompt payment and audit provisions
- ... Worked on the pedigree issue
- ... Commented on Board of Pharmacy proposed Technician rules
- ... Numerous other legislative issues
- ... Co-chaired the Governor's eHealth – ePrescribing Workgroup
- ... Commented on Cover Tennessee programs
- ... TennCare Pharmacy Advisory Committee, Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board, and Medical Policy Group
- ... Workers' Compensation Medical Care and Cost Containment
- ... Participated in the Tennesseans Improving Patient Safety (TIPS) Symposium
- ... Received the TIPS Patient Safety Award for development of the Tennessee Universal Medication List (UML)
- ... Collaborated with GNRC to pilot the Vial of Life project, including the UML

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION...

TPA communication resources include:

- > Blast e-mails and faxes
- > TPA's website, www.tnpharm.org
- > The monthly *NEWStream*
- > The quarterly *Tennessee Pharmacist* ("Journal")
- > "Update MedicareRx"
- > "Independent Link"
- > Legislative Bulletin, Legislative Directory, and Legislative Alerts
- > Listservers: TSHP, TSIP, TSP
- > TPA surveys about the UML, Immunization, Planning for the Future
- ... Provided timely communication of TennCare changes
- ... Provided timely communication of CoverTN changes
- ... Provided timely communications regarding Medicare Part D
- ... Provided timely communications regarding implementation of the Tennessee Controlled Substance Database
- ... Provided timely communications, alerts and calls to action about legislative and regulatory issues at the state and national levels
- ... Issued alerts about fraudulent prescription activity
- ... Provided up-to-date information on Medication Therapy Management (MTM) issues
- > Community CCRX/Mirixa updates faxed, e-mailed, published in *NEWStream* and *Journal*, and posted on website
- > TPA MidYear Seminar: featured Current Trends in MTM and a panel of practitioners actively engaged in MTM
- > Annual Convention: featured education on building the business model for MTM, comprehensive medication review as part of MTM, and patient assessment skills to support MTM services
- > Tripartite Conference: formed a task force to address key issues related to implementation of MTM services in Tennessee
- ... Provided immunization training programs
- ... Highlighted pharmacy-related Quality Assurance issues during the UT Update Series, MidYear, Convention, and the upcoming Futures Symposium
- ... Provided OSHA and CPR training at MidYear Meeting and Annual Convention

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES...

- ... *Tennessee Handbook on Pharmacy and Drug Law*
- ... Basic Compliance Assessment Checklist
- ... Pharmacy Quality Commitment (PQC) – community pharmacy quality assurance program
- ... Patient Counseling Record and Third Party Prescription Log
- ... State and Federal Compliance: Scheduled Listed Chemical Product Sales Record and Logbook – Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine
- ... HIPAA Resources
- > NCPA HIPAA Security Handbook for Community Pharmacists
- > PRS HIPAA Security Compliance Program – CD
- > PRS Privacy and Security HIPAA – CD
- ... Pharmacy Based CLIA-Waived Laboratory Testing – Includes OSHA requirements
- ... Required Tennessee Healthcare Provider Notices – 3-in-1 Poster available in English and Spanish
- ... Pharmacy Technician Educational Resources
- > Pharmacy Certified Technician Training Manual (10th edition)
- > Pharmacy Certified Technician Calculations Workbook (2nd edition)
- > The Pharmacy Technician Certification Review and Practice Exam
- > Pharmacy Technician Certification: Quick Study Guide
- ... APhA Discount Book Program
- ... ASHP/TSHP Discount Publications Program
- ... Pharmacy Audit Assistance Services (PAAS)
- ... Pharmacists Mutual Companies insurance and financial services
- ... *The History of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association 1934-1994: The Sharp Years*
- ... TPA art and note cards – "Corner Drugstore" by the talented Barrie Foster