INDEPENDENT Link  
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Please Help Move the Profession of Pharmacy Forward

PHARMACISTS’ INPUT REQUESTED FOR TPA EXECUTIVE RESIDENT RESEARCH

The Tennessee Pharmacists Association (TPA) Executive Resident, Lucy Adkins, PharmD, is conducting her residency research on pharmacists’ access, utilization, and participation within statewide immunization information systems (IIS), through the Tennessee Pharmacists Research and Education Foundation (TPREF).

Survey Link: bit.ly/rphsurveyIIS

This survey consists of a maximum of 20 questions, and should take approximately five to ten minutes to complete. All pharmacists are encouraged to complete the brief online survey by February 27, 2015.

The results of this survey will be used to quantify and qualify pharmacists’ current understanding and perceptions of statewide immunization information systems.

Identifying pharmacists’ utilization of these immunization information systems, including needs and barriers, will provide participating state pharmacists associations with valuable information regarding the strengths and weaknesses of their state’s IIS systems, as well as insight into the educational and practical needs of pharmacists as providers of a significant percentage of immunizations. Moreover, increasing the number of pharmacist-based immunization records in statewide immunization information systems will increase the accuracy of patients’ immunization records, ensure patients receive the appropriate immunizations, improve care coordination and collaboration between pharmacists and other health care providers, and prevent unnecessary spending, reducing costs within the health care system related to unneeded additional immunizations.

TPA and TPREF highly value the work you do every day to help your patients live healthier, more productive, and higher quality lives, and your input and assistance with this survey is greatly appreciated!

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact Dr. Lucy Adkins by email at Lucy@tnpharm.org or by telephone at 615-256-3023.

To access the full article, please visit the Latest News section of the TPA website at www.tnpharm.org/news

National Governors Association Supports Expanding Role of Pharmacists

Report released on pharmacists’ value to patients and the health care system

The National Governors Association (NGA) recently released a new paper describing the important role that pharmacists play within health care teams beyond safely dispensing medications.

“As the health care system undergoes a major transformation in both finance and the delivery of services, states are focusing on improved quality and health outcomes,” said NGA Executive Director Dan Crippen. “Integrating pharmacists, who represent the third largest health profession, into the health care delivery system is one way to meet those goals.”

“Integrating pharmacists as team members into collaborative models of care was the main focus of last year’s TPA-sponsored legislation, Public Chapter 832,” stated Micah Cost, Executive Director of TPA. “The collaborative pharmacy practice law in Tennessee authorizes exactly the types of collaborative partnerships between physicians and other health care providers outlined in the NGA report; particularly, the role of the pharmacist in working with other health care providers to help patients manage chronic and complex diseases and achieve optimal health outcomes.”

To access the full article, please visit the Latest News section of the TPA website at www.tnpharm.org/news

Questions? Please contact TPA at 615-256-3023 or tpa@tnpharm.org  |  www.tnpharm.org

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