Committee: New York City Society of Health-system Pharmacists
Topic: "Tech check tech" programs
Sponsors: Pavel Goriacko, PharmD, MPH and Harshal Shukla, PharmD, BCPS

Whereas, increased training, competency testing, and certification requirements for technicians in the institutional setting have led to the development of well-educated and highly skilled pharmacy technicians who undertake important roles and responsibilities in the medication use process

Whereas, in the rapidly evolving healthcare setting, pharmacy technicians need to advance their level of operations management to help institutions meet the increasing demands for patient-care services through innovative programs such as "tech check tech"

Whereas, tech-check-tech programs have been demonstrated to yield considerable time savings for pharmacists, which creates opportunities to expand pharmacists' role in clinical services and improve patient care outcomes

Whereas, a multitude of studies have demonstrated that in the final verification of unit dose orders in the institutional setting, technicians can perform as accurately or more accurately than pharmacists

Whereas, with advances in technologies such as bar-code scanning, additional checks in the medication use process are already implemented during the stocking of automatic dispensing cabinets and at the time of medication administration

Resolved that,

NYSCHP supports promoting "tech check tech" programs in institutional settings, which involve a highly trained pharmacy technician performing the checking of another technician's order-filling accuracy. Furthermore, NYSCHP supports the employing institution validating the technician's ability to perform "tech check tech" though formal competency assessments, as well as specific requirements for education, registration, and/or certification.

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