



New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists

**REPORT OF PHARMACY PRACTICE DIRECTOR**

Mary Choy, PharmD, BCGP, FASHP

April 2021

New York

## **Responsibility of the Division**

The Director of Pharmacy Practice shall be responsible for reviewing and developing recommendations for the growth of the Council along professional lines. The director's responsibilities include the development of new and maintenance of existing liaisons with other professional organizations involved in the delivery of healthcare and to provide support to pharmacy technicians.

### **I. Committees of the Division**

#### **Professional Affairs Committee**

*Chair:* Travis Dick

*Members:*

Eva Berrios-colon  
Amanda Engle  
Andrew DiLuca  
Bernie Delello  
Courtney Caimano  
Hanlin Li  
Jaclyn Scott  
Karen Vitacolonna Falk  
Lisa Voigt  
Matt Goldstein  
Michele B. Kaufman  
Nicole Stack Lodise  
Olga Hilas  
Rob Berger  
Raymond Cha  
Samuel Lam  
Sarah Farghaly  
Thanh Ta  
Shaun Flynn  
Winnie Wong

*Activities:*

- Review and recommend sunset or renewal of position statements
- Create new position statements
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion policy
- Create the Professional Affairs Committee charter
- Establish and maintain relationships with other professional organizations
  - New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene COVID19 Healthcare Provider Task Force
  - Academy of Medical & Public Health

## **Pharmacy Technician Committee**

*Chair:* Cyndie Walton

*Members:*

Bibi Khan  
Rafael Roman  
Heide Christensen  
Ruth Cassidy  
Lisa Voigt  
Nicole Cieri-Hutcherson  
Shaun Flynn  
Ryan Burke  
Michele B. Kaufman  
Victoria Hom  
Thomas Frisco  
Sinsil Ha  
Jennifer Zhou  
Jamie Chin  
Billy Sin

*Activities:*

- Advance the pharmacy technician profession through communications, including webinars for technicians, technician podcasts, and having the ‘Pharmacy Technician Corner’ in the NYSCHP News Brief
- Spearhead the Annual Assembly educational programming for the technician track
- Spearhead the development and programming for the technician “meet and greet” networking session at the 2021 Annual Assembly
- Update the NYSCHP website with current and relevant pharmacy technician information
- Review and recommend sunset or renewal of position statements
- Create new position statements
- Establish and maintain relationships with other professional organizations
- Create the Pharmacy Technician Committee charter
- Appoint technician delegates for the House of Delegates
- Discuss topics relevant to technician pharmacy practice in New York State

## **Pharmacy Technician Toolkit Workgroup**

*Chairs:* Rafael Roman, Samuel Lam

*Members:*

Cyndie Walton  
Bibi Khan  
Christa Clay  
Curtis Haas  
Claire Burke  
Michele B. Kaufman  
Salvatore Ventrice  
Vickie Powell

*Activities:*

- Create resources to help Health-System Pharmacy Directors related to complying with the new NYS pharmacy technician certification requirements

II. **Strategic Plan Tasks: Status Update**

Strategy	Action Items
Develop innovative and attractive programming and networking opportunities for all members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spearhead the first Technician Track at the Annual Assembly 2021</li> <li>• Spearhead the first Technician Meet and Greet networking session at the Annual Assembly 2021</li> <li>• Selected moderators are technicians</li> <li>• Rafael Roman, CPhT; Title: Pharmacy Technicians: Strategies for Engagement and Advancement</li> <li>• Tiffany Kofroth, CPhT, CSPT; Title: Medication, Safety and Compounding</li> </ul>
Increase greater awareness and participation in NYSCHP programming.	<p>NYSCHP Membership and Annual Assembly Marketing Email to PTCB's Membership List</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email was sent in February 2021 to 7,620 recipients</li> </ul>
Create a "pipeline" for submitting news/updates from across the NYS and use this information across the full spectrum of the association.	<p>Pharmacy Technician Corner: 4 published articles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March 2020: Annual Assembly</li> <li>• November 2020: Rafael Roman, CPhT. Pharmacy Technician Spotlight</li> <li>• August 2020: Ryan Burke, PharmD. An Update from Pharmacy Technician Certification Board</li> <li>• April 2020: Bill Schimmel, Message from the Executive Director and CEO of PTCB</li> </ul> <p>Podcast: Pharmacy Technician Certification Host: Mary Choy, PharmD, BCGP, FASHP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyndie Walton, CPhT, Chair of NYSCHP Pharmacy Technician Committee</li> <li>• Zachary Green, BA, CPhT, Associate Director of Partnership Development, PTCB</li> </ul> <p>YouTube Video</p>
Continue surveying members & potential members to identify needs, trends, and effectiveness of current offerings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technician education interest surveys</li> </ul>
Continue to develop Committees, ensuring structure and goals meet Council's needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name change from Support Personnel Committee to Pharmacy Technician Committee</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 technicians selected to represent at the House of Delegates 2021</li> </ul>
Continue strengthening Council's governance, administration, and operations paradigm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation of Toolkit Workgroup</li> <li>10 position statements were presented at the Virtual House of Delegates 2020</li> <li>Created Comprehensive Medication Management (CMM) resolution to be presented at HOD 2021</li> <li>Adopt ASHP's Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy</li> </ul>
Tout the achievements of NYSCHP, its leaders and members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update landing page of NYSCHP website</li> <li>Update technician page of NYSCHP website</li> </ul>

### III. **HOD Recommendations: Status Update**

<b>Recommendation Assigned</b>	<b>Status Update</b>
The Council recommends the discontinuation of the Part III exam (2019)	Professional Affairs Committee discussed and decided to not take action. It has been brought to the House of Delegates in the past and at that time, it was decided that it would remain as part of the licensing process for NY pharmacists.
Support Personnel Committee gather/collate information on best practices for pharmacy technician scope, practice, duties and create a "toolkit" for NYSCHP members seeking to utilize and optimize technicians in preparation for upcoming licensure (2020)	Pharmacy Technician Committee discussed and decided to not take action because the "toolkit" was for pharmacy directors and it was outside the purview of the committee. Outside of the committee, a survey toolkit survey was distributed. Upon discussion of these results, a technician toolkit workgroup was created.

### IV. **Review of Position Statements: Completed at Virtual HOD 2020, all recommendations were accepted**

<b>Position Statement Assigned</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<u>02-16.</u> The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports antimicrobial stewardship in all facets of healthcare such as inpatient, outpatient and long term settings by developing newer or expanding existing programs and auditing their effectiveness. The council also supports to increase the number of PGY2	Amended:  The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists advocates for antimicrobial stewardship in all facets of healthcare. The Council also supports to increase the number of PGY2 programs

programs and/or fellowship training programs in infectious disease to achieve the demands laid out by the US government by 2020.	and/or fellowship training programs in infectious diseases.
<u>03-16.</u> The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the development of a standardized pediatrics and neonatal intravenous medication concentration reference. Subsequently, the council supports manufacturer production of commercially available intravenous medication solutions with availability in the standardized concentrations.	Readopt
<u>04.16.</u> The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports legislation and regulation to allow the food and drug administration (FDA) approval of biosimilar medications that are also determined by the FDA to be interchangeable and, therefore, may be substituted for the reference product without the intervention of the prescriber. The Council also encourages research on the safety, effectiveness, and interchangeability of biosimilar medication and encourages education of pharmacists about biosimilar medications and their appropriate use within hospitals and health systems.	Readopt
<u>05.16.</u> The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists opposes PBM exclusion of healthsystem pharmacy owned specialty pharmacies as a covered pharmacy under their preferred network for patients who are patients of the health-system.	Readopt
<u>06.16.</u> The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the development and implementation of an online vaccination registry for adult patients to ensure that providers across the state have the most up-to-date vaccination information for their patients.	Amended:  The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the development and implementation of an online vaccination registry for patients to ensure that providers across the state have the most up-to-date vaccination information for their patients.
<u>2-11.</u> Position statement on the role of the Pharmacist in the “Medical Home” concept The New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists supports the inclusion of pharmacists as a care provider within the health care (medical) home model. <sup>1</sup> Pharmacists can affect the delivery of primary care by addressing the challenges of medication therapy management. Most office visits involve medications for chronic conditions and require assessment of medication effectiveness, and patients’ adherence with medication regimens. Pharmacists are often underused in conducting these activities. They perform comprehensive therapy reviews of prescribed and self-care medications, resolve medication-related problems, optimize complex regimens, design adherence programs, and	Amended:  Position statement on the role of the Pharmacist in the “Medical Home” concept. The New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists supports the inclusion of pharmacists as a care provider within the health care (medical) home model. <sup>1</sup> Pharmacists can affect the delivery of primary care by addressing the challenges of medication therapy management. Most office visits involve medications for chronic conditions and require assessment of medication effectiveness, and patients’ adherence with medication regimens.

	Pharmacists are often underused in conducting these activities. They perform comprehensive therapy reviews of prescribed and self-care medications, resolve medication-related problems, optimize complex regimens, and design adherence programs.
<u>3-06.</u> NYSCHP supports educational efforts to promote pharmacy residencies in New York State. The experience gained in a residency can be compared to several years of experience in the same practice area and pharmacists continue to evolve into more clinical patient care roles. The importance of having high quality residency training available becomes more apparent and the number of residency seeking pharmacy graduates exceeds the number of available residency positions and NYS is lagging behind in the number of residencies offered throughout the state.	Amended:  NYSCHP supports educational efforts to expand and promote pharmacy residencies in New York State.
<u>5-06.</u> NYSCHP supports the health-system Pharmacist's Role in Automation and Informatics. The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists believes that pharmacists have the unique knowledge, expertise, and responsibility to assume a leadership role in automation initiatives and clinical informatics in health-systems, further, as health-systems develop plans for the adoption of health information technology and associated automation, pharmacists must integrate their knowledge of information systems and the medication use process to improve patient care by insuring that new technologies lead to more effective, more efficient and safer medication use, and, health-system pharmacists must advocate for and initiate changes in processes and workflow associated with automated systems and health information technology to maximize the safety and effectiveness of these innovations within all health-system settings.	Amended:  NYSCHP supports the health-system Pharmacist's Role in Automation and Informatics to maximize the safety and effectiveness of these innovations within all health-system settings.
<u>01-16.</u> The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the formation of affiliations between health-system pharmacies and ASHP/ACPE-accredited pharmacy technician training programs and/or programs seeking ASHP/ACPE-accreditation.	Readopt
<u>07-16.</u> The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports certified and registered pharmacy technicians, under the supervision of a registered pharmacist, to prepare patient-specific medications in New York State.	Readopt

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Choy*

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Director of Pharmacy Practice, NYSCHP