



New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists

REPORT OF VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC POLICY

Andrew Kaplan, Pharm.D., BCPS

April 28, 2021
Albany, New York

I. Responsibility of the Division

The charge of the Division of Advocacy as defined in the Constitution and Bylaws of the NYSCHP, is to be responsible for:

- Inform membership regarding pharmacy-associated statutes, regulations, executive actions
- Assess legislation, regulations, executive actions and develop the Council's position
- Negotiate with legislators and other pharmacy organizations to optimize legislation
- Create references for members to utilize to engage legislators and the public, such as talking points, fact sheets and sample letters of support.
- Engage NYSCHP members in year-long advocacy efforts

II. Committees of the Division

Public Policy Committee

Chair: Mike Milazzo, Pharm.D., BCPS

Members: Mike Milazzo, Andrew Kaplan, Shaun Flynn, Karen Berger, Amisha Leimbach, Mark Sinnet, Kaitlyn Agedal, Karl Fiebelkorn, N Sardar. Jeffrey Brewer, Tom Lombardi, Amelia Chan, Karl Williams, Wingsze Liu

Activities:

- Provided revisions to CDTM legislation to office of Rebecca Seawright, sponsor of A3048
- Provided support to Governor's office regarding inclusion of CDTM optimization language in the Executive budget
- Gathered cost-savings and patient outcomes information and sharing with Governor's office
- Gathered CDTM law comparisons (state by state) and shared with Governor's office
- Developed new references for members, including fact sheets, FAQ's
- Provided comments to legislature, Governor's office and NYSED regarding the importance of leaning consent requirement in existing CDTM, especially as it relates to expanded use of telehealth
- Drafted revisions to preferred immunization bill and provided to Amy Paulin, sponsor of A6411
- Using data from Bureau of Immunization and CDC, provided information legislators and Governor's office regarding declining immunization rates in NYS due the COVID-19 pandemic, stressing the importance of pharmacist-led immunization services
- Assist NYSED in shaping draft regulations for pharmacy technician registration
- Review pharmacy technician regulations to ensure Council members comfortable with verbiage
- Collaborate with other pharmacy organizations to create an "omnibus" pharmacy practice proposal

Activities: Future

- Engage physician and patient access organizations in consolidating support for CDTM and immunization practices
- Collaborate with other pharmacy organizations on introducing the "omnibus" pharmacy practice proposal
- Expand the scope of NYSCHP legislative support to include other proposals, such as CLIA waived testing

Grassroots Advocacy Committee

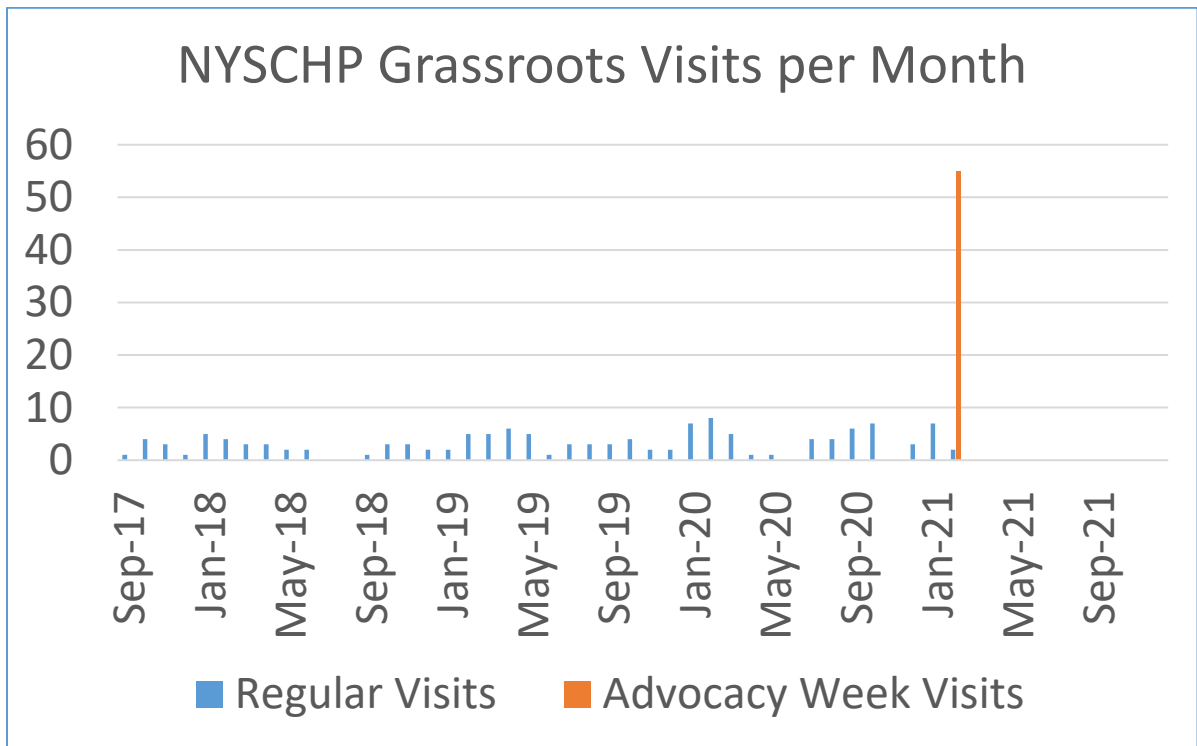
Chair: Karen Berger

Members: Amanda Eloma, Amanda Mogul, Andrew Kaplan, Angela Cheng-Lai, Chung-Shien, Chris Noel, Christina Lombardi, Christine Kopec, Dino (Manfredo) Pompa, Ellen Giordano, Emma Gorman, Eric Guido, Grace Shyh, Greg Mack, Heide Christensen, Jamie Chin, Kara Cutaia, Karen Berger, Karl Fiebelkorn, Lilia Davenport, Matt Goldstein, Matthew Zak, Michael Milazzo, Nicole Cieri-Hutcherson, Patrice Dupart, Peter Aiello, Rachel Quinn, Rebecca Kavanagh, Rob O'Connell, Ruth Cassidy, Samantha Liaw, Samantha Paone, Sebastian Choi, See-Won Seo, Shaun Flynn, Shawn

Fellows, Shireen Farzadeh S. Saedi, Susan Lee, Tamara Hernandez, Taryn Mondiello, Timothy Hutcherson, Tony Gerber

Activities: Past

- Development and execution of first ever state-wide “Advocacy Week” event
 - 122 individuals participated in 55 legislative visits (more than all of 2020’s visits, combined)
 - CDTM secured a chamber sponsor (Senate – Rivera)
 - Assembly immunization bill received additional co-sponsorship (at least 9)
 - All Schools/Colleges of Pharmacy and NYSCHP chapters involved
 - Post-assessment survey showed broad interest in participation, appreciation for resources
- Development of local Grassroots Committee, with Chair and infrastructure, leading to legislative visits as well as member activities, in each NYSCHP chapter
- Maintenance of local legislative visits year-round throughout the state; not needing to rely upon lobby day as sole source of engagement. 46 total visits in 2020 (new record for the committee, which already dwarfed by 2021).
- Expansion of “seasoned” members to aid in legislative visits – such as through training and “graduating” of “unseasoned members”
- Development and regular maintenance of readily-available committee resources – such as those on the website – to facilitate member involvement
 - FAQ’s, Fact Sheets, Sample Emails to Legislators, Sample Script for Legislative Visit, How a Bill Becomes a Law, How to tell if Legislator supports our preferred Legislation, Advocacy Week Mini Toolkit
- Outreach to members through newsletter articles, local chapter events and participation in NYSCHP Podcast
- Continuous education – legislative updates during committee members and local chapter events
 - NYC Society of Health System Pharmacists CE on maintaining advocacy during COVID
 - NYSCHP CE: Advocacy Workshop
 - NYSCHP CE: Legislative Update
- Simulation training and mock legislative visits at local chapters to ensure members get a glide path to participating
- Publication of advocacy efforts and best practices (through AJHP, JPP, etc) to provide resources to members as well as share experiences/promote brand of NYSCHP
 - [Berger K, Kaplan AS. Implementation of a grassroots advocacy movement through state and local collaboration. Am J Health Syst Pharm. 2019;76\(11\):774-778.](#)
 - [Kaplan AS, Berger K. Expanding advocacy to the grassroots level: The New York State model. J Pharm Pract 2020 \[Epub ahead of print\]. doi.org/10.1177/0897190020934287.](#)
 - [Berger K, Kaplan AS. Advocacy during crisis: Maintaining a legislative presence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Am J Health Syst Pharm 2020;77\(22\):1830-3.](#)
- Presentations at national conferences (e.g. ASHP MCM) to promote NYSCHP advocacy and exchange best practices with other state affiliates
- Use of micro-volunteering to facilitate committee activities (social media, updating member tracker)
- Educational videos for the public, legislators on priorities



Activities: Future

- Advocacy Week
 - Identification of Chair or Co-Chairs
 - Publication of process and findings to assist other ASHP affiliates
 - Assess functions for micro-volunteering and identify interested parties to champion
- Grassroots Advocacy Committee
 - Maintain and build out local chapter involvement
- Resources
 - Redesign website to facilitate ease of resource assessment

III. Strategic Plan Tasks: Status Update

1. Engage

Strategy	Action Items	Notes
Engage local NYSCHP chapters	Participate in educational programming; help support volunteerism	Some local chapters have had great experience in advocacy and lots of resources – some have neither. We need to do a better job in the next year of working closely with the chapters that have smaller resource/leadership footprint.
Engage Schools/Colleges of pharmacy	Participate in letter writing and other educational programming at Schools/Colleges of Pharmacy	Community pharmacy has had a strong voice in Schools/Colleges of Pharmacy; has required a large investment of time and energy to ensure Health-System Pharmacy roles are understood and legislative priorities are focused on and promoted.

Engage other organizations	Patient advocacy and physician groups	We as pharmacists, cannot advocate for our scope of practice because nobody cares about that. Legislators (and the public) care about patient access to care. We could do better partnering with other organizations to focus on patient access and quality of care.
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2. Lead

Strategy	Action Items	Notes
Advocacy Week	Grow and maintain NYSCHP-specific advocacy event	We need to lead the efforts for promoting health-system pharmacy legislation, as we cannot rely on the other pharmacy organizations to do so.
Local legislative visits	Grow and maintain NYS Advocacy Model	We need to continue to lead the other organizations in pushing and supporting our grassroots model as opposed to relying only on big events like lobby day

3. Advocate

Strategy	Action Items	Notes
Patient access to care	Improve messaging	We need to ensure our advocacy message is strongly focused on patient access
Public perception of pharmacists	Develop marketing strategies	We need to ensure our message and media shows the public (and legislators) what pharmacists can really do
Physician support	Reach out to other organizations	We need to partner with physicians and physician organizations to work collaboratively on advocating for optimal patient care models

IV. HOD Recommendations: Status Update

Recommendation Assigned	Action Taken (Y/N) or Status Update	If No Action, Indicate Why
None	N/A	N/A

V. Review of Position Statements: Status Update

Position Statement Assigned	Status Update	Next Steps as Applicable
1-11 The NYSCHP supports pharmaceutical waste disposal programs for hospitals and health systems that are in accordance with Federal and New York State	Recommended to sunset	VHOD in December opposed Public Policy Committee recommendation to sunset

<p>regulations and also comply with national accreditation standards. The NYSCHP believes that all hospital and health system personnel require a solid knowledge of what constitutes pharmaceutical waste and proper disposal of this waste. Controlled substances should be managed in accordance with DEA and NYS regulations in conjunction with Federal and NYS hazardous waste regulations. The NYSCHP further supports development of a standardized training program for all hospital and health system personnel.</p>		
<p>1-06 NYSCHP supports repealing the laws and regulations that pharmacists be United States citizens or permanent residents in order to be licensed in New York State.</p>	<p>Recommended to sunset</p>	<p>VHOD in December agreed to Public Policy Committee recommendation to sunset</p>

Respectfully submitted,

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Vice President of Public Policy