

Committee: New York City Chapter of Health-system Pharmacists
Topic: Decreasing geriatric polypharmacy
Sponsored by: Karen Berger, Michele B. Kaufman

Whereas, The elderly population has increased in recent years, and,

Whereas, The prevalence of the elderly population taking 5 or more medications has increased, and,

Whereas, polypharmacy is associated with a higher risk of adverse drug reactions, drug interactions, and a decline in medication effectiveness due to reduced adherence and understanding of their disease state(s), declining cognitive function, as well as, auditory and visual changes of aging, and,

Whereas, Pharmacists can play an essential role in counseling geriatric patients regarding their medications, optimizing regimens and dosage forms for each particular patient, and providing medication therapy management to improve the understanding of their disease state(s), preventative health, and medication use based on their specific factors, as well as, their insurance coverage, and to improve patient outcomes, and decrease medication overutilization, therefore be it

Resolved That:

The New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists supports the implementation of geriatric medication therapy management and individualized patient counseling to optimize outcomes by pharmacists, in ambulatory settings.

Date: January 29, 2015

By: *Karen Berger, PharmD, BCPS*
Signature of NYSCHP Active Member 1

Michele B. Kaufman, PharmD, CGP
Signature of NYSCHP Active Member 2