

**Oct 2016**

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# New York State Council Health-system Pharmacists



## President's Message

Dear NYSCHP Members,

Pharmacy Week is upon us. What are you doing to celebrate and promote our profession and organization? Let us know so we can share it on social media. Remember, we all need to be the *voice* of our profession, and own our current and future image and practice.

I was fortunate enough to take part in ASHP's legislative day with a few of our esteemed members, Leigh Briscoe-Dwyer, Mark Sinnett, Karen Berger, and Shaun Flynn. We had an opportunity to meet with representatives from Senators Shumer and Gillibrand's office, as well as Congressman Chris Gibson, who is a true gentleman and great supporter of pharmacy. Amongst other topics, we were able to discuss provider status for pharmacists at the federal level and locally in New York State. It will take more than the five of us to get our legislative agenda to move forward. We need all pharmacist, both members and non-member of NYSCHP, to get this accomplished. As I quoted lyrics from John Mellencamp during my installation address "You have to stand for something or you are going to fall for anything." Now is the time to take a stand and reach out to your local legislators to educate them on provider status, CDTM, certified technicians, and pharmacist as immunizers expansion.

On another note, our new logo competition will be coming to an end next month. If you have not submitted an entry, there is still time. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be part of history.

If you are attending ASHP's MCM mark your calendars for December 3rd for the New York State reception. Time and venue will be shared once confirmed.

Lastly, have a Happy Halloween and Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

Joseph Pinto  
*President, NYSCHP*

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## Lobby Day



On September 21 a delegation from the Council joined with colleagues from across the nation for the 2016 ASHP Lobby Day. Participants received a morning briefing from ASHP government affairs staff and then spent the rest of the day meeting with elected officials on Capitol Hill on provider status opioid abuse prevention and 340-B. The New York Team met with Senator Schumer's and Gillibrand's offices and several members of the House of Representatives from New York State. For more information on ASHP's Federal advocacy agenda go to [www.ashp.org](http://www.ashp.org).



# Communication Committee (CC)

The Communication Committee is responsible for the promotion of the Council on state and national levels. The committee also oversees all Council publications and public relations media, and all aspects of Council approved activities. This news brief is just one of the tools used by the council to disseminate important information to our members. We hope you are taking the time to read them at your leisure.

In case you have not heard, or may be missed our advertisement, this year the Communications Committee is charged with leading the NYSCHP logo redesigning campaign. A monumental task to say the least, as the logo is the single most important graphic representation of the Council. It will be the ‘face” of NYSCHP. The symbols and color used in the logo will provide essential information about the Council, its goals, and its mission. It will be the Council’s new identity.

Committed to ensuring that we have a robust number of logo redesign ideas, the CC kicked off a Logo Redesign contest during this year’s Annual Assembly. The idea is to have members of the council submit logo design ideas to the council, and the winning design will be granted either a free one year membership or a free registration to 2017 Annual Assembly. Both the submitting member and the chapter in which the member belongs to shall be recognized during the Annual Assembly.

To date, we already received a handful of great logo design concepts. Each one of the design convey a great message about the council, and we cannot wait to pick the winner. If you are interested in submitting a design idea, it is not too late. The deadline is **November 30<sup>th</sup>**. Not a graphic designer? No worries, we at the council welcome all design ideas, even if it is just a doodle on a piece of napkin. Take a photo or scan the idea, and simply submit via email to [sflynns@nyschp.org](mailto:sflynns@nyschp.org) OR [cmillaressipin@gmail.com](mailto:cmillaressipin@gmail.com).

On other note, the committee continues to generate and distribute the monthly news brief. This would be the third year since we reinstated the new brief. The news brief has had a facelift over the past three years. We have incorporated a few new sections which included the clinical corner and the book review. We have had some very positive feedback from the readers. Our committee continues to innovate and reinvent the new brief to make it more relevant as well as enjoyable to the readers.

Lastly, the committee remains steadfast to ensuring that our website and social media accounts remain up-to-date to make certain that our member are able to find information regarding the council and its activities, and chapter activities easily. We know how important for our members to be able to use these website with ease.

If you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can better improve the Council’s communication methods, please feel free to email me at [cmillaressipin@gmail.com](mailto:cmillaressipin@gmail.com).

Catherine A. Millares-Sipin  
*Director of Communications Committee, NYSCHP*

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# Touro College of Pharmacy Spotlight

The ASHP-SSHP chapter at Touro College of Pharmacy has kicked off a wonderful new academic year by welcoming the class of 2020, recruiting new members, planning a fundraising event, and organizing a community flu clinic.

Touro ASHP-SSHP started its membership drive for the new school year in August, where we offered membership information to all students. In addition to the promotional materials provided by ASHP, Touro ASHP-SSHP created a personalized brochure, which introduced our officers and faculty advisor. The brochure also highlighted our ongoing events for the year and chapter initiatives. During our membership drive, we promoted one of our initiatives, the mentorship program. The mentorship program was started in 2013-2014; it was designed to provide first year pharmacy students guidance and mentorship from upperclassmen. The expectations of this program are to facilitate new students' acclimation to pharmacy school, increase their interest in pharmacy leadership, and to prepare them to become successful future pharmacists. Not only does this program foster growth for new students but it also aims to strengthen the leadership and professionalism of the student mentors.

Touro ASHP-SSHP will be holding our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Candy Gram this winter as one of our fundraising events. Students, faculty, and staff will have the opportunity to show their appreciation or give thanks to another individual with a special candy gram delivery. Over the past two years, this event has been a success with many individuals being surprised by the candy grams. Many faculty and staff received piles of candy as appreciation from the students!

In Fall 2016, Dr. Mary Choy (Past President of NYCSHP) organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Community Outreach Flu Clinic Initiative that was held at the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC) – Brooklyn Branch. Collaborators included Touro ASHP-SSHP, New York City Society of Health-System Pharmacists (NYCSHP), Assemblyman Peter J. Abbate, Jr., City Council Member Carlos Menchaca, and Advocate Community Partners. This outreach highlighted the important role of pharmacists in public health by providing vaccines to underserved adult New Yorkers. Pharmacists from Walgreens (Lilly Leung, Hong Yun) administered 80+ flu shots to Asian-American and Spanish community members. NYCSHP members, including pharmacist (Kristin Jarrell) and student volunteers (Sulema Barron, Izabella Davydova, Saira Mohammad, Sybil Goday, Gretchen Marcelino, Phoebe Wong) assisted in translating information in Chinese and Spanish, and also helped to market the event. Student volunteers also screened the community members about their health histories and assessed their current health status to ensure there were no issues preventing them from receiving the immunization. A student grant was awarded from the New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists to help market this event. To date, this clinic has provided over 300 immunizations to community members.

We look forward to having a great academic year and preparing our members to attend ASHP's Midyear in Las Vegas!

*Adam Chin, PharmD Candidate, Class of 2018*  
Touro College of Pharmacy  
ASHP-SSHP President

*Mary Choy, PharmD, CGP, FASHP*  
Associate Professor, Touro College of Pharmacy  
Faculty Advisor, ASHP-SSHP





Assemblyman Peter J. Abbate with the Community Flu Clinic Team



(L-R) President-Elect Diana Duong, Treasurer Megan Loper, Vice President Lauren Aronin, President Adam Chin, and Secretary Vincent Tran



## Noteworthy News

### Touro Student Chosen for New Pharmacy Quality Scholars Program

New York, N.Y. – August 23, 2016 – [Touro College of Pharmacy](#) (TCOP) student Sefa Kploanyi has been chosen to participate in the inaugural Pharmacy Quality Alliance-CVS Health Foundation Scholars Program, which is launching on September 1, 2016.

The Scholars Program was established by CVS and the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA) to recognize student excellence in projects centered on quality-related medication initiatives.

Designed to support up to 15 student-mentor pairs, the scholars chosen will design, implement and present a project related to quality measurement or improvement at PQA's annual meeting in the spring. PQA represents a variety of stakeholders interested in improving the quality of medication use.

#### The "Treatment Gap"

Ms. Kploanyi, a fourth year PharmD candidate, will be assessing what she calls the "treatment gap" of medication-assisted treatment ("MAT") for opioid and other addictions, which has become increasingly popular and is expected to continue to grow in acceptance as more steps are taken to combat opioid addiction.

"The purpose of my project is to discern potential healthcare gaps by investigating prescribing patterns, assessing adherence to medication-assisted treatment guideline recommendations and evaluating patient medication adherence to buprenorphine, one of the leading FDA-approved medications used to help wean patients off opiates as well as transition to an addiction-free life," she said.

Ms. Kploanyi said she was grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Scholars Program because it encompasses research, public health, and the improvement of healthcare quality, "everything I am passionate about." she said. "Opiate addiction is now acknowledged as a growing public health matter. There has been some progress as the federal government and several states are taking initiatives to finally address it but more research will be needed and I hope my research can provide valuable information as to how buprenorphine is used to treat addiction."

Her project will involve literature reviews and data analyses to assess deficits in guideline and medication adherence for buprenorphine, followed by an education campaign directed towards providers to spread awareness about treatment options and methods to decrease opioid addiction.

"With this data, an educational intervention targeted for providers will be created to increase awareness of MAT and treatment guidelines," she said.

As she pursues her work, Ms. Kploanyi will be mentored by TCOP Assistant Dean of Curriculum/ Interim Assistant Dean of Academic affairs and Associate Professor Dr. Batoul Senhaji-Tomza, who previously served as a patient safety consultant with various U.S. hospitals. Ms. Kploanyi took Dr. Senhaji-Tomza's Foundations of

Patient Safety course at Touro, and her professor has served as a mentor as she has continued to explore the field.

“She has brought me into the fold of her own research projects, introduced me to new concepts and encouraged me to pursue my passions,” Ms. Kploanyi said. “I learned that with ample research, simple behavioral and structural changes and measurable outcomes, a significant difference could be made in the quality of care provided to patients.”

#### **About the Touro College and University System**

*Touro is a system of non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was chartered in 1970 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American and global community. Approximately 18,000 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has 30 campuses and locations in New York, California, Nevada, Berlin, Jerusalem and Moscow. New York Medical College; Touro University California and its Nevada branch campus; Touro University Worldwide and its Touro College Los Angeles division; as well as Hebrew Theological College in Skokie, Ill. are separately accredited institutions within the Touro College and University System. For further information on Touro College, please go to:*

<http://www.touro.edu/news/>

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## Clinical Corner

(About: The Clinical Corner is dedicated to sharing of innovative ideas in pharmacy. It is a way for members to share information that advances the profession of pharmacy. This includes but not limited to “Best Practices,” “Medication Error Prevention,” “New Medication Review,” “Pharmacy Operational/Systems Enhancements,” and many more. We welcome members to submit ideas to the Director of Communications at [cmillaress@northwell.edu](mailto:cmillaress@northwell.edu).)

### Clinical Evolution of a Community Hospital Pharmacy

By Aviva Bodek, Pharm.D., BCPS  
Critical Care Clinical Pharmacy Specialist

Recently, I happened upon an article discussing pharmacy practice model initiatives. As I read, I reflected on the rapid evolution of our pharmacy practice model at F.F. Thomson Hospital over the past 3 years. It dawned on me how unique it is for an institution of our size to be practicing at such a level. My hope in sharing some highlights from our journey, is to inspire other rural community health systems to begin theirs.

An affiliate of UR Medicine since 2012, F.F. Thompson Hospital is an 118 bed acute care facility situated in the Finger lakes region of Upstate New York. As a pharmacy student on rotation years ago, I was impressed with how forward-thinking the organization was. I had the opportunity to come back to Thompson in the Spring of 2013 after many years of practicing primarily in larger academic medical centers. My goal was to improve patient care via shifting the pharmacy practice model from one that was mainly centralized drug-distribution to one that was patient-centered and unit-based. Shortly after piloting our new practice model, a new director of Pharmacy came on board and facilitated its expansion system-wide. There was now a dedicated pharmacist for each unit including the ED and ICU. This was a timely change with interdisciplinary rounding beginning in the ICU later that year and then spreading out to the other units. Strong interdisciplinary care teams were created, of which pharmacy has become an integral part of. In the new practice model, routine daily clinical activities of the clinical pharmacists include:

- ❖ Participating in interdisciplinary rounds
- ❖ Dosing and monitoring vancomycin and aminoglycosides
- ❖ Performing dose adjustments based on indication and renal function
- ❖ Performing dose adjustments for extremes of body weight
- ❖ Performing antimicrobial stewardship
- ❖ Serving on such committees as critical care, stroke, med safety, P&T, antimicrobial stewardship, and the falls team
- ❖ Attending codes
- ❖ Teaching cardiac rehab patient education programs
- ❖ Performing medication reconciliation
- ❖ Providing warfarin teaching
- ❖ Precepting APPE and IPPE pharmacy students
- ❖ Filling and counseling discharge prescriptions for orthopedic post-operative patient's
- ❖ Ordering and evaluating drug levels/other related labs assessing for potential drug toxicities



❖ Running the following clinical conditions within the PIS in order to help identify potential toxicities and or needed

dose adjustments

→ Potassium > 5.1 meq/L

→ Platelets <100 Th/mm<sup>3</sup>

→ INR monitoring

→ Patient weight >120kg, <45kg, or those missing a height and weight

→ CrCl <50 mL /min

→ Renally dosed medications to assess for improvements in renal function necessitating a potential dose increase

→ Consecutive BG's over 250 mg/dl (ICU 180 mg/dl)

The pharmacy department has also led the development and implementation of several new evidence-based medicine protocols some of which are listed below:

❖ **ICU electrolyte replacement protocol**

Nurse driven electrolyte repletion for magnesium, potassium, phosphorous, and calcium. Thus ensuring that the the target levels are achieved quickly without the routine need for nursing to contact the provider.

❖ **Inpatient Diabetes Management Protocol**

Insulin based blood glucose management with basal, nutritional, and correctional insulin coverage. The goal being the avoidance of greater than 2 consecutive BG levels above 250 mg/dl in general medical patients and 180mg/dl in the critically ill.

❖ **A-F Bundle for mechanically ventilated patients**

A sedation management protocol focusing on the mitigation of ICU delirium, VAP prevention, and ultimately quicker liberation from mechanical ventilation.

❖ **An updated Stroke TPA eligibility worksheet**

An aid for providers to help determine whether a patient is eligible and appropriate for TPA administration

❖ **New Alaris smart pumps along with standardized infusion monographs**

We installed new IV pumps in Sept 2015 and were able to reduce our total number of overrides from 140 to approximately 30 per 1,000 infusion starts. Clear and concise drug monographs were developed outlining appropriate infusion rates, method of titration, weaning, adverse effects, and directions for preparation. Infusion kits were created and loaded in the Pyxis machines for infusions that nursing may need to prepare during pharmacy off hours. Each kit contains an infusion monograph, a patient label with barcode, and all of the supplies required to prepare the infusion (drug, diluent, needles, syringes, and alcohol wipes).

Other pharmacy initiatives:

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❖ **Unwanted medication bin**

In September 2016 we worked with the Thompson Hospital Guild to purchase a receptacle for unwanted medications. It was installed in the lobby for the public and associates to use. An effort to minimize medication in the watershed and the potential for medication getting in the wrong hands.

❖ **Medication Reconciliation Program**

It began with the ED pharmacist performing medication reconciliation (med rec) for new admissions with the help of APPE students on rotation. It was apparent that when pharmacy performed the med rec, errors were prevented. The ensuing demand for pharmacy to perform med rec for all admissions exceeded our capabilities. This prompted the addition of med rec pharmacy technician in the ED from 12pm-8pm M-F and 2 pharmacy interns providing weekend coverage. Extensive training of the med rec staff was done by the pharmacist. Once the med rec is completed, it is reviewed by a pharmacist for potential entry errors and or clinical concerns. However, despite the additional staff, we were still unable to exceed 50% of patients being med rec'ed by pharmacy prior to or within 24 hours of admission. One of the biggest issues was that a large portion of admissions were occurring between 8-1130pm, when there is no on-site pharmacist. A second med rec tech in combination with our overnight telepharmacy service PipelineRx, allowed us to further expand our med rec program until 1130pm whilst still maintaining pharmacist review. After the on-site pharmacist leaves for the evening, med recs are faxed to PipelineRx for review. The PipelineRx pharmacists readily communicate with the ED Med History technician if there are any further questions. The expansion has been in place since August 1<sup>st</sup> and has been working beautifully. For the first time, we were able to attain 100% verification of home medication lists by pharmacy within 24 hours of admission.

It has been an exciting and rewarding road for us. While we are still working on compiling data in order to quantify the impact of our initiatives, it is evident that patient safety and outcomes have greatly improved.

**Thank you to our our pharmacy team, who, have made it all possible**

Chris Dailey, Pharm.D.-Director of Pharmacy  
Marco Mennucci, Pharm.D.-Clinical Staff Pharmacist  
Kendra Knebel.-Clinical Staff Pharmacist  
Geraldine Cherubim, Rph.-Clinical Staff Pharmacist  
Mary Freeman, Pharm.D.- Clinical Staff Pharmacist

Renee Thomas, Rph-IT Pharmacist  
Alexandra Fuller, Pharm.D.-Clinical Staff Pharmacist  
Brian Mosman Rph-Clinical Staff Pharmacist  
Deirdre Pierce, Pharm.D., BCPS, WSOP Faculty member  
The PipelineRx Team

## **NYSCHP and Local Chapter Upcoming Events**

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*November*

- November 6th: NYCSHP Medical Volunteering at the TCS New York City Marathon
- November 8th: NYCSHP CE Program
- November 10th: NYCSHP Networking Program
- November 12th: NYCSHP Special Projects CE Program
- November 14th: NYCSHP Student Program
- November 15th: NYCSHP New Practitioners Leadership Program
- November 15<sup>th</sup>: Royal Counties CE Program on Cardiology
- November 17th: NYCSHP CE Program
- November 20th: NYCSHP Brown Bag Event

*December*

- December 13th: NYCSHP CE Program

*April*

- April 28<sup>th</sup>: NYSCHP 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly





*To all the hard working, dedicated, and passionate pharmacists and pharmacy support team, thank you for your continued support of NYSCHP.*

*Happy Pharmacy Week!*





Are you creative? Do you doodle a lot on paper? Do you want to be part of history?  
NYSCHP is seeking to rebrand, redesign, and revitalize their logo.  
Time for a change and we need you!

You do not have to be a computer graphics designer to submit an entry.  
A hand drawn idea of a logo will work!  
Just scan or take a photo of it with your phone, and submit.  
It's that simple.

The winning design will be enhanced by a professional graphic designer for NYSCHP use.  
The winner's prize: one-year FREE membership or FREE registration to the Annual Assembly!

**STUDENTS are welcome to enter contest. Submit your entry soon!**

For contest rules and information, please visit <http://www.nyschp.org/page/2016LogoRedesign>

Deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Submit your entry to: [sflynn@nyschp.org](mailto:sflynn@nyschp.org) or [cmillaress@northwell.edu](mailto:cmillaress@northwell.edu)

