## New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists

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## NYSCHP Announces Actions Taken at the 2019 House of Delegates

SARATOGA SPRINGS NY- The House of Delegates of the New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists held their 46<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Saratoga, New York, on April 11, 2019. Approximately 50 delegates representing nine chapters from New York State, the NYSCHP Board of Directors and Past Presidents reviewed and approved the following:

- End-of-the-year reports from members of the NYSCHP Board of Directors
- Sunsetting of three position statements regarding pharmacy technicians
- Amendments to the NYSCHP Constitution and Bylaws
- Ten resolutions submitted by chapters and committees

Noteworthy amendments to the NYSCHP Constitution and Bylaws included the addition of two student delegates as voting members of the House of Delegates beginning in 2020; changing the nomination and election of the Treasurer and Vice President for Public Policy to a full membership election as with the other Board of Director positions; and changing the title of the Director of Education and Workforce Development to the Director of Education and Professional Development.

Of the eleven resolutions that were submitted, ten were adopted as new Position Statements of the NYSCHP:

• The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the development and implementation of a common National electronic health information network accessible to pharmacists and healthcare providers that allows pharmacists to update a patient's medication list when appropriate.

- The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the incorporation of the education on transgender patient care into New York State pharmacy school curricula.
- The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the expansion of basic healthcare access in medically underserved regions of the United States through utilization of pharmacists.
- New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports inclusion of pharmacy technicians in pharmacist-led medication reconciliation services to improve patient safety and transitions of care.
- The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the establishment of Medication Safety Officer position or equivalent position, a dedicated pharmacist who is directly responsible for and leads health system strategies to prevent, manage, and improve medication-use practices.
- The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports that the NY State Board of Pharmacy require the use and implementation of USP <795> pharmaceutical compounding non-sterile products, USP <797> compounding of sterile preparations and USP <800> for hazardous drug handling.
- The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports development of a penicillin skin testing program that includes pharmacist administration, with oversight by the Board of Pharmacy with a goal of updating the definition of the practice of pharmacy.
- 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.
- The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports a standardized curriculum for the training of pharmacy technicians pursuing certification. Training programs should be accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation body. Certified pharmacy technicians should maintain this certification through nationally-accredited continuing education.
- The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the recommendation to request that all New York State schools of pharmacy offer the opportunity to obtain a Bachelors in Professional Studies Degree to the students enrolled in their professional program with additional areas of study and opportunities in the career of pharmacy.

The meeting of the NYSCHP House of Delegates concluded after the submission of recommendations by delegates for action to be taken in the coming year and an address by the outgoing President, Dr. Anthony Longo. The House of Delegates was chaired by

Elizabeth Shlom, with Shaun Flynn as the Executive Secretary and Thomas Lombardi as Parliamentarian. The updated list of all NYSCHP Position Statements can be found on the NYSCHP website at https://www.nyschp.org/position-statements.

Founded in 1958, the New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists is a professional organization of over 2000 pharmacists, pharmacy technical personnel, students, industry personnel and other interested in the advancement of pharmacy as an essential component of health care and medication error reduction. NYSCHP is dedicated to promoting good health through public education, fostering safe and rational drug use; encouraging and assisting in the development of quality, comprehensive pharmaceutical services and serving as a catalyst for practice innovation that enables members to better serve the public interest and the profession.

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