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# New York State Council Health-system Pharmacists



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## **President's Message**

Dear NYSCHP Members,

For our student members and their instructors, welcome back to the new academic year! For our colleagues already practicing the profession, do you still get that nervous feeling in your gut when the "Back to School" season begins? I'm sure some readers remember what it was like having the entire summer off from school.

Speaking of school and students, the Council's Board of Directors has put into action a number of initiatives intended to improve the inclusion of our future pharmacists in our organization's activities. We are in the process of identifying upper class pharmacy students from around the state to serve as representatives on various board committees. In addition to addressing students' professional development with formal programs at the Touro (downstate), Albany and Wegmans (upstate) schools of pharmacy this fall, the Annual Assembly Committee is planning to meet their needs at the Sagamore Resort in April 2017.

With the "Back to School" theme in the air, the NYSCHP Board of Directors has its own (self-imposed) "assignments" as well. It has dedicated an October weekend in Albany (leaf-peeping not included on the agenda) for a face-to-face board meeting and time to update our organization's strategic plan. Your officers and directors will be reviewing what has and has not been accomplished in the past three years, and then establishing our vision of the near future for our organization and profession. As your representatives, please share your thoughts with us before this planning session.

I am pleased to report that the Nominations Committee listened closely to our members and Board of Directors, and presented two candidates for each open position in the annual election. Not just any candidates were nominated to fill the slate. The committee presented our membership with well-qualified, respected pharmacists from around New York State. Congratulations to our new board members and I very much look forward to the experience and ideas that they will bring to next year's board. I encourage everyone to reach out to our Nominations Committee and suggest names for future leaders of our organization.

The Tri-State Health-System Pharmacy Summit is a great example of our efforts in continuing and fostering collaborations between NYSCHP and other pharmacy organizations. On September 30, 2016, a five-hour continuing education program will be jointly presented with our pharmacy colleagues from New Jersey and Connecticut. NYSCHP will continue to be represented at the quarterly meetings of the New York State Pharmacy Conference where all the state-wide pharmacy organizations, regulators, schools of pharmacy, and stakeholders have a forum to exchange ideas, discuss developments and get updates on issues pertinent to our profession. Stay tuned for more collaboration with both pharmacy and non-pharmacy organizations in strengthening our role as health care professionals.

Christopher Jadoch  
*President Elect, NYSCHP*

## **Dr. Mary Choy, Pharm.D, CGP, FASHP**

### **Winner of the ASHP-ABHP Leadership Award**



NYSCHP is proud to announce that Mary Choy, Pharm.D., CGP, FASHP, is the 2016 recipient of the ASHP-Association of Black Health-System Pharmacists (ABHP) Joint Leadership Award. This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in healthcare.

Dr. Choy is Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at the Touro College of Pharmacy in New York, NY., and a Clinical Pharmacist in Internal Medicine at Metropolitan Hospital, both of which are located in Harlem. She is an exemplary leader with a passion for advancing health-system pharmacy, education, and service.

Dr. Choy has been an active member of NYSCHP and was a Past President of the New York City Society of Health-System Pharmacists (NYCSHP). Throughout her career, she has led pharmacists and students to improve racial and ethnic health disparities through collaborations with community-based organizations and legislators. Her work in underserved areas have increased the visibility of the profession and improved the public perception of pharmacy. Dr. Choy has partnered with several groups (including the New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene, the New York University Center for the Study of Asian American Health, the New York City Coalition for a Smoke-Free City, the Brooklyn Smoke-Free Partnership, and the Chinese-American Planning Council) to train community health workers, conduct health fairs, and provide immunizations. Her leadership and devotion to public health and the pharmacy profession are exemplified through her extraordinary work promoting public health awareness related to smoking cessation, immunizations, diabetes, and other health conditions that minorities face in the New York City area.

Dr. Choy has published numerous articles in the medical literature and has guided many students in research and presentations at the local, state, and national levels. She is well recognized by the pharmacy profession and community for her efforts, and has appeared on the NBC Today Show, SinoVision TV, and in newspapers. She is an ASHP Fellow, as well as a recipient of several honors, including the NYCSHP Harold Neham Award, the New York State Assembly Citation Award, the New York City Council Citation Award, and the APhA Immunization Champion Award.

Dr. Choy will receive the leadership award at the annual ABHP luncheon in December at ASHP's 51st Midyear Clinical Meeting in Las Vegas.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Mary Choy for this well-deserved and prestigious award.



# Continuing Competency Committee (CCC)

The NYSCHP Continuing Competency Committee (CCC) aims to assess the educational needs of its members and develops programs to further enhance their clinical knowledgebase and provide them with the necessary tools to optimize patient care. The CCC meets on a monthly basis and plans continuing education sessions and other networking/educational programs that allow pharmacists, technicians, and students to keep on track with their professional goals and stay a step ahead of their competition. Through optimization of remote programming opportunities, the CCC will soon be able to provide educational programming to even more pharmacists, technicians, and students across the state.

The CCC is currently in the process of planning and finalizing the Student Programs (Downstate Program on 8/26, Rochester Program on 9/10; and Albany Program on 10/22). Amy Dzierba (Downstate), Matt Zak and Nicole Cieri (Rochester), and Alyssa Shangraw (Albany) have taken the lead on these programs and are diligently working to provide excellent preparatory sessions for students to equip them with resources needed to land a residency, fellowship or other job opportunities. The CCC encourages its members to make their students aware of these programs and help promote and advertise these sessions.

The Downstate Critical Care Pharmacotherapy Symposium will be held on 10/14 at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Medical Center and will focus on important topics such as Oncological Emergencies, Medication Safety in the ICU, New and Emerging Therapies for Gram-Negative Infections and Toxicology Antidotes. The program will also feature a 1-hour platform for PGY-1 and PGY-2 pharmacy residents to present critical care focused clinical pearls on hot topics in the field of critical care. The Upstate Critical Care Pharmacotherapy Symposium will be held on 10/15 at the D'Youville College School of Pharmacy, Buffalo, New York and will be based on a similar theme with presentations on Obstetrical Emergencies, Fungal Infections in the ICU, Management of Critical Bleeding in Trauma Patients, Oncologic Emergencies and hot topics in critical care clinical pearl presentations by pharmacy residents. Special thanks for Amy Dzierba, Kim Zammit, Lisa Voight and Aviva Bodek for their efforts in developing these programs.

The Tristate Program, which is typically held in joint collaboration with the NY, NJ and CT chapters will be held on 9/30 at the Tarrytown, Hilton and will be based on the theme of 'Practice Advancement Initiative' (PAI). Eric Maroyka, Pharmacy Director of the Center of Pharmacy Practice Advancement will lead the Keynote speech and provide an ASHP perspective on the PAI model. Other presentations will revolve around Ambulatory PAI and justification of the PAI through Business Plans. Several pearls sessions, featuring highlights of current practice are included throughout the day. There will also be a residency showcase, a student leadership program that will provide guidance for future career development, many exhibits, providing an opportunity to interact with industry colleagues, and an exhibitor forum. Other exciting opportunities forthcoming include programs on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Long Term Care and the provision of community education in partnership with the AARP.

The 2017 Annual Assembly (AA) planning has begun; be sure to save the dates! We look forward to outstanding educational programs, the Residency Program, student and resident poster/platform sessions, the exhibit hall, networking and social events. Several topics have already been suggested for educational programming and include Pain Management, Drug Diversion, Management Pearls, Transitions of Care, Management of Specialty Clinics, Anticoagulation, and Joint Commission requirements for Antimicrobial Stewardship. The CCC and AA Planning Committees welcome any new ideas and are excited to see the program grow bigger and better each year!

We hope to see you at the upcoming programs and look forward to exciting opportunities in the future.

Heide Christensen  
*Director of Education and Workforce, NYSCHP*



## New York City Chapter Spotlight

New York City chapter has several exciting events coming up! We have at least 2 networking/continuing education dinner programs every month to ensure all members can participate. Our CE programs will provide education on: HCV, HIV, PAH, Diabetes, and IBD. Our Grants Committee for 2015-2016, led by Kanika Ballani-Lala and Eva Berrios-Colon, did an excellent job last year! They were able to obtain two grants that our chapter was able to use for CE Programs this Fall!

In August, we had our 1st formal membership drive by allowing non-members to attend both CE Programs for free. We hope to have them join the society after they see the benefits that they can obtain as members! At our CE programs, we will be setting up laptops for our members to reach out to their elected officials so they understand how the Pharmacy and Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act (H.R. 592 and S. 314) will allow pharmacists to provide health care services for patients. As a pharmacist and a constituent, we have tremendous influence with our members of Congress!

This year, NYCSHP has created a new and exciting committee called the New Practitioner Committee (NPC), which is modeled after the ASHP New Practitioner Forum. The committee seeks to strengthen the ties between emerging leaders in pharmacy practice and NYCSHP. The purpose of this committee is to support new practitioners' transition into real world practice and kindle lifelong involvement in professional organizations. The committee targets pharmacists within the first five years of practice post-graduation. They intend to serve the educational and informational needs of new practitioner members. Look for great events coming from the NPC this year!

In July, the Royal Counties chapter organized the QUAD Social Mixer for NYC, Westchester, and Long Island chapters. This was an entertaining event that brought together several members to network. In August, members of the New York City and Royals chapters participated in the 5th annual Healthcare Leaders of New York Past President's Boat Cruise. The event focused on professional networking on board a private yacht in New York Harbor, taking in the sites and enjoying a summer evening on the Spirit of New York! We were able to meet several health care leaders working at various New York City institutions.

The New York City chapter has several upcoming events in the next few months:

- Several networking dinners and CE Programs
- Industry Relations Program
- New York Cares Day
- Social networking event organized by the New Practitioner Committee: Wine Riot
- Adopt-a-Highway
- Pharmacy Week at the Today Show
- Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk
- Mentoring Program
- Special Projects CE Program

*Jason Babby, Pharm.D., BCPS*  
President, NYCSHP



## Nominations Committee

The results are in...

**Please congratulate your new 2017-2018 elected officials!**

President-Elect: Anthony J. Longo, Sr.

Director, Chapter Services: William Allan Prescott Jr.

Director, Pharmacy Management: Robert Berger

Director, Communications: Catherine A. Millares-Sipin

Thank you to all who ran and those that participated in voting. Your continued support of NYSCHP is greatly appreciated.

*Stephanie Seyse*

*Immediate Past President, NYSCHP*



**Congratulations!**

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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 [Catherine.millares-sipin@touro.edu](mailto:Catherine.millares-sipin@touro.edu).)

### Implementation of a Transition of Care Program in an Urban Academic Medical Center

by Nikki Bhogal, PharmD, BCPS  
Clinical Pharmacy Manager, Transitions of Care  
Mount Sinai Beth Israel

Effective continuum of care for patients from the hospital to the outpatient setting has become a focus for many professionals and organizations in the healthcare field. The goal is to reduce preventable hospital readmissions and additionally increase quality of care stemming from the Affordable Care Act. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and American Pharmacist’s Association (APhA) recognize the need for continuity of patient care, encouraging pharmacist involvement in transitions of care initiatives.

Mount Sinai Beth Israel (MSBI) is a tertiary teaching hospital in an urban setting located in the Lower East Side of Manhattan. The pharmacy department consists of clinical pharmacists of multiple specialties and staff pharmacists that are decentralized throughout the hospital. The institution recently implemented a pharmacist led transition of care (TOC) program that focuses on preventing high-risk readmissions and improving Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers Survey (HCAHPS) scores by providing medication-related interventions.

The program was first initiated on the general surgery floor to increase HCAHPS scores by providing discharge education and follow-up phone calls. The counseling sessions are performed by pharmacists and pharmacy interns who then follow-up with the patients 24-72 hours post-discharge. The COPD pilot program was also launched at the same time to target a component of the institution’s high-risk readmission population. The COPD team consists of pulmonary attendings/fellows, respiratory therapists and pharmacists. The pharmacist on the team is responsible for consulting with the patient on admission and discharge and reviewing the patient’s medication regimen for appropriateness. The pharmacist also provides disease state education and medication counseling to the patient prior to discharge. The patient is then followed up 24-72 hours post-discharge via phone call. The follow-up phone call addresses any barriers to compliance, follow-up appointments and any questions that the patient may have for the team. The program was first piloted on the observation and pulmonary units. Due to the program’s success, it has now been implemented hospital-wide and the team gets consulted via pager for every primary diagnosis of patients with a COPD exacerbation that has been admitted. Since March 2015 to updated data in March 2016, the readmissions for COPD have been reduced by 12% from baseline after implementation of the COPD program. We have now expanded the

pharmacy TOC services to the CHF team which consists of the cardiologists, nurse practitioners and pharmacists. MSBI's goal moving forward is to target the institution's high-risk patients on a consult basis. The institution's pharmacy department is also collaborating with outpatient clinics and providers to implement Collaborative Drug Therapy Management (CDTM) within the Mount Sinai Health System.

Pharmacists serve as a valuable component of interdisciplinary transitions of care teams by providing their clinical knowledge and communication skills to manage care of patients. Investing in pharmacist-provided transitions of care has proven to be a low-cost safety initiative with an increased return on investment. According to the New York State Collaborative Drug Therapy Management (CDTM) program, pharmacist involvement resulted in cost-savings of approximately \$3.5 billion in hospital costs annually. Utilizing pharmacists as medication experts will improve clinical outcomes, reduce costs and increase patient satisfaction.



# NYSCHP and Local Chapter Upcoming Events

## September

- September 28<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP CE: “How to Succeed in Pharmacy Without Really Trying”
- September 29<sup>th</sup>: Westchester CE Program: “Anticoagulation Reversal in Critically Ill”
- September 30<sup>th</sup>: Tri-State Meeting

## October

- October 1<sup>st</sup>: NYCSHP Adopt-A-Highway
- October 11<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP Networking Program
- October 12<sup>th</sup>: Royal Counties CE Program on HIV
- October 16<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
- October 17<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP going to the Today Show
- October 20<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP CE Program
- October 14<sup>th</sup>: Downstate Critical Care Program
- October 15<sup>th</sup>: Upstate Critical Care Program
- October 22<sup>nd</sup>: NYCSHP New York Cares Day
- October 22<sup>nd</sup>: ACPHS Residency & Fellowship: Staying a “Step Ahead” of Your Competition
- October 27<sup>th</sup>: LISHP CE Program
- October 27<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP CE Program
- October 27<sup>th</sup>: Royal Counties CE Program on Oncology
- October 29<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP Hiking Trip

## November

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

## December

- December 13<sup>th</sup>: NYCSHP CE Program

## April

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







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: [Catherine.millares-sipin@touro.edu](mailto:Catherine.millares-sipin@touro.edu) or  
[sflynn@nyschp.org](mailto:sflynn@nyschp.org)

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