Collaborative Pharmaceutical Task Force Advisory Board Meeting

Date: February 13, 2019
Meeting Convened: 1:31 P.M.
Meeting Adjourned: 3:15 P.M.
Location: Chicago: JRTC CBD Rooms 14-612; SPI: Stratton CBD 349C

Roll Call:
Philip P. Burgess, MBA, DPh, RPh, Chairperson
Scott Meyers, MS, RPh
Helga Brake, PharmD
Scott A. Reimers (Springfield)
Brian H. Kramer, RPh, MBA
Adam Bursua, PharmD
Lemrey Al Carter, RPh
Garth Reynolds, RPh
Jerry L. Bauman, PharmD
Thomas Stiede
Scott Meyers, MS, RPh

Staff Present:
Lucienne Doler, IDFPR

Guests Present:
Tomson George, Walgreens
Katherine Lee Mosio, UI Health
Megan Rueth, UIC P4 Student
John Long, CVS Health
Ryan McCann, Jewel Osco
Lisa Florence-Ray, Roosevelt University
Rebecca Ohrmund, Northwestern Memorial Hospital
Joel Kurzman, NACDS
Mary Ann Kliethermes, Midwestern University
Peter Vlasses, ACPE
Melissa Senatore, Teamsters 727
Melissa Hogan, Roosevelt University College of Pharmacy
Jeff Wadelin, ACPE
Jan Keresztes, Talent First
Sarah Stolz, Jewel-Osco
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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
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<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>• <strong>Phil:</strong> December minutes approved with changes. January minutes approved.</td>
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| Approval of Minutes| • December minutes  
  o Motion-Jerry Bauman  
  o Second-Al Carter  
  • January minutes  
  o Motion-Al Carter  
  o Second-Scott M | • December Minutes unanimously approved with changes  
 • January Minutes unanimously approved with changes |
| Discussion         | A. **Discussion and recommended language to maximize the utilization of pharmacy technicians to improve patient care. This to include recommendations as to additional training that might be required for expanded activities: Presentation and Discussion led by Brian Kramer** |        |
|                    | • **Brian:** As we have discussed in the past, in order to expand on the roles of a pharmacist, we also need to consider changes for pharmacy technicians. Currently in Illinois, a registered pharmacy technician may, under the supervision of a pharmacist: 1. Assist in dispensing process, 2. Offer counseling, 3. Receive new verbal prescription orders, and 4. Have prescriber contact concerning prescription drug order clarification.  
  • **Further, a pharmacy technician may not engage in:** 1. Patient counseling, 2. Drug regimen review, 3. Clinical conflict resolution, 4. Prescription transfer, and 5. Vaccination  
  • **Al:** I would like to ask the audience what is current practice? Are pharmacists allowing pharmacy technicians to take verbal orders?  
  • **Audience:** if there is an experienced pharmacy tech available to take an order over the phone, I would allow it and it would be helpful during busy seasons  
  • **Phil:** the supervising pharmacist would be liable for a mistake made by the pharmacy technician.  
  • **Al:** I would like to see the addition of prescription transfer for pharmacy techs in the future  
  • **Adam:** this is the one area where a pharmacist cannot second check whether the pharmacy tech did this correctly and since there is already a low rate of verbal prescriptions, I do not see why pharmacy techs should be allowed to take verbal prescriptions.  
  • **Al:** I think you can put measures in place to answer your concerns and in the future, this may not even be an issue if everything is E-prescribed.  
  • **Helga:** I agree, that this is a difficult place to put the pharmacist in if they cannot double check the work of the pharmacy tech.  
  • **Lisa:** personally, I take all my transfers because I am responsible for that order. |        |
| **AI:** For new orders that come in for the retail pharmacy setting, are they mostly verbal or E-prescribed? |
|**Lisa:** They are mostly E-prescribed |
|**Brian:** we’re trying to find ways for pharmacist to maximize on their time, so we can maybe achieve that by having techs to more. What more do pharmacists feel comfortable with techs doing? For example, the Act is silent about techs administering vaccinations. |
|**Phil:** In Idaho, the techs can administer vaccinations under the supervision of a pharmacist. |
|**Peter:** there is a press release which was recently released, in which 12 organizations agree that it is time we have national standards for pharmacy technician education. |
|**Helga:** we may consider pharmacy techs and ambulatory practice, which could potentially be used in a retail setting. I also really like the idea where there are standards for pharmacy techs instead of having a set list of what pharmacy techs can and cannot do, which is more flexible. |
|**Phil:** As far as legislation is concerned, can we consider having broad standards of what pharmacy techs can do and instead have rules expanding and providing more information on what education and training requirements are for pharmacy techs? |
|**Luci:** Not many other professions are set up this way |
|**Jan:** are we looking to possibly reverse requiring that pharmacy techs have training and education before obtaining a license? |
|**Phil:** No, we would hold the pharmacists in charge as responsible for ensuring that technicians have proper training/education to perform specific duties. |
|**Brian:** In Illinois, I think we need to discuss the topic of technician final product verification, which exists in states like Iowa and Arizona. |
|**Audience:** Northwestern has a tech check program, in which 10 percent needs to be checked by the pharmacists. |
|**Phil:** the department is hesitant to identify a number of organizations in the act listing accrediting bodies. |
|**Luci:** it’s better to be broad and if there are some accrediting organizations you specifically do not want then that can be listed. |
|**Garth:** Organizations are hesitant about product verification techs because of reimbursement and whether they could cost pharmacists jobs. |
|**Audience:** there are various factors related to this and I’m sure there is a concern with some. |
|**Brian:** any other ideas or concerns? |
|**Phil:** Additionally, one of the potential recommendations to the Department is that we address some type of mandatory revalidation for certified technicians. |
|**Luci:** on every renewal people are asked if their CE was completed and are advised that they can be audited, but that is the extent of what the Department can do for pharmacy techs. |
### B. General Discussion:

- **Phil:** Next month, we are going to focus on grounds of discipline. Secondly, we will look at what can take place at a pharmacy while a pharmacist is on break.
- **Task Force:** continued to a brief discussion on the status of the extension of the Pharmacy Act and deadline for proposed changes.
- **Luci:** The Department is actively working on completing a bill which would allow for an extension. I will be in contact with Phil and Garth about feedback I receive from the Department.
- **Scott:** Update on letter with our questions sent to Department of Labor.
- **Luci:** I will send you all the questions and keep you updated on any feedback from the letter that was sent to the Department of Labor.

| Adjournment | Adjourned 3:15 p.m. |