

NASCSA NEWS

June 18, 2010

President's Message

A resolution is an opportunity for your voice to be heard in the national debate on prescription drug diversion and abuse. In recent years, the NASCSA Executive Committee has designed and implemented more structure for the resolutions process with the goals of improving the quality and potential impact of resolutions as well as providing the membership with sufficient information and time to make an informed vote. However, the structure may have inadvertently discouraged some potential resolution writers, as suggested by the low number of policy resolutions over the last few years. Not to be daunted by this dilemma, the Executive Committee has taken a new tack in asking the Resolutions Committee to set an example by drafting resolutions to be considered (or voted upon) during this year's conference. Moreover, in an effort to be responsive to the interests of the membership, the resolutions will be based on issues that the membership identified in the 2009 NASCSA survey, including doctor-shopping laws, tamper-resistant prescription blanks, IDs for prescription pickup and medical education on proper prescribing of controlled substances. We will be sharing the Committee's work with you in the next few weeks and encourage you to submit your own resolutions as well. The deadline for regular submission (to avoid the need for a supermajority vote at the annual meeting) is September 3, 2010. So, get out your pens (or keyboards) now and avoid the October rush!

Grant Carrow, President, NASCSA

Save the Date for NASCSA's Annual Conference: October 19-22, 2010

Mark your calendars for the 26th Annual Conference of the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities to take place at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Charleston, South Carolina October 19-22, 2010. The [preliminary program](#), registration information as well as hotel registration information is already posted on the web. The final conference brochure will be mailed late next month. The Embassy Suites Hotel features a full cooked to order breakfast each morning as well as a nightly managers reception, and is centrally located within the heart of historic Charleston. Although the hotel does not offer transportation to the airport, taxis and shuttles are easily accessible. The program Committee has put together a great program based on issues identified by members and includes a presentation from students from Recovery High School, pain management, creative programs used by states with prescription drug monitoring programs, and electronic prescribing of controlled substances among others

Travel Scholarship Applications Available!

Recognizing that many states are facing financial difficulties the Executive Committee is offering up to six travel scholarships to be awarded to states to attend this year's conference. Scholarship applications are available on the website. The deadline is [July 31, 2010](#).

Important Deadlines

July 31 - Scholarship Applications Due

Aug. 20 - Bylaw amendments Due

Sept. 3 - Resolutions Due

Sept. 24, 2010 - Hotel Registration Deadline

Newsletter Deadlines

The newsletter will be released on the following dates each year, with more frequent updates as necessary: April 1, June 15, August 5, October 1 and November 1. Please send suggestions and articles for consideration to be included in future issues.

Travel Scholarships Available

The Executive Committee, having recognized the significant fiscal pressures on states this year, has authorized up to six travel scholarships of up to \$1500 each for states to attend the annual conference this fall. The [scholarship application](#) is available to member states and can be found on the main website. The deadline for submitting an application is July 31, 2010. Scholarship awards will be announced on August 17, 2010.

NASCSA Voices Concerns On NASPER Rules

NASCSA has submitted comments to the proposed rule of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) on Minimum Requirements for Criteria in Fiscal Year 2011 Grant Applications under the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005 as appearing in the Federal Register of April 14, 2010. NASCSA continues to support SAMHSA in its efforts to provide grant funding to state Prescription Monitoring Programs (PMPs) and is in favor of promoting compatibilities in state programs, a number of states that are members of the organization have raised questions concerning potential impacts of the proposed rule on state programs, including the need for legal authority, infrastructure and budgets to carry out certain sections of the rule as proposed. Specifically, some member states have raised concerns about such issues as authentication requirements, PMP subaccounts, and unsolicited reports. A copy of the letter is found at www.nascsa.org.

FDA Announces Joint Meeting on REMS

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced a joint meeting of the Anesthetic and Life Support Drugs Advisory Committee and the Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee. The committees will discuss Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS) for extended-release and long-acting opioid analgesics. As part of the materials for the meeting, FDA anticipates presenting a proposal for a classwide opioid REMS and will solicit feedback from the advisory committees and public on the components of that proposal. The meeting will be held on July 22 and 23, 2010, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at The Marriott Inn and Conference Center, University of Maryland, University College; 3501 University Boulevard East, Adelphi, MD. The [Federal Register](#) notice provides additional information about the public participation process and availability of background material.

DEA's Interim Final Rules for Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances Effective June 1

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issued an Interim Final Rules on electronic prescriptions for controlled substances that were published in the *Federal Register* on March 31, 2010, and took effect on June 1, 2010, subject to Congressional review. The revised

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State Regulatory Developments

State Regulatory Developments is a monthly compilation by NASCSA of state regulatory actions related to pharmacy and controlled substances. State Regulatory Developments is located on the website www.nascsa.org under "News."

regulations permit prescribers to write prescriptions for controlled substances electronically, and allow pharmacies to receive, dispense, and archive these electronic prescriptions. DEA requested additional comments regarding identity proofing, access control, authentication, and biometric subsystems and testing of those subsystems, internal audit trails for electronic prescription applications, and third-party auditors and certification organizations. The Interim Final Rule can be accessed in the [Federal Register](#). DEA has created a [Web page](#) that contains links to additional information and resources.

NABP Issues Resolutions at Annual Meeting

Delegates from the member boards of pharmacy adopted 10 resolutions during the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) 106th Annual Meeting, held May 22-25, 2010, in Anaheim, CA. Among the [resolutions](#) adopted were a resolution to establish a task force to review and recommend revisions to the federal Controlled Substances Act of 1970 and a resolution encouraging uniform disciplinary guidelines.

Campaign Launched Providing Resources for Teens on Prescription Drug Abuse

The National Council on Patient Information and Education, along with SAMHSA and representatives from 15 nationally recognized prevention, health professional, and child advocacy organizations, are launching Maximizing Your Role as a Teen Influencer: What You Can Do To Help Prevent Teen Prescription Drug Abuse. The [comprehensive online resource](#), offers a complete workshop module to educate and equip teen influencers-parents, grandparents, teachers, coaches, community and school-based health care providers, and others-with credible information about teen prescription drug abuse and effective strategies to take action to help prevent it.

ONDCP Issues National Drug Control Strategy

The Office of National Drug Control Policy has published the [2010 National Drug Control Strategy](#) and put it online this week. One of the key focuses is to expand PMPs to help intervene and prevent health care consequences due to prescription drug misuse.

Newsletter Reminder

NASCSA's electronic newsletter, launched two years ago, has been well received by our members. The newsletter will be released on the following dates each year, with more frequent updates as necessary: April 1, June 15, August 5, October 1 and November 1. Please send suggestions and articles for consideration to be included in future issues.

NABP Task Force Releases Report on Prescription Monitoring Program Standards

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) has issued a

[final report](#) of the Task Force on Prescription Monitoring Program Standards that was approved by the NABP Executive Committee at their April meeting.

From the States

Massachusetts -- The Department of Public Health, Drug Control Program proposed regulations that would enhance the commonwealth's prescription monitoring program. A public hearing on the proposed amendments was held on May 25, 2010 in Boston, MA. The proposal and public hearing record are available on the agency's website at www.mass.gov/dph.

Wisconsin - On May 18, 2010, Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle signed into law **legislation** that directs the Pharmacy Examining Board to create a program to monitor the dispensing of Schedule II and Schedule III prescription drugs and other prescription drugs identified by the board as having a substantial potential for abuse. To implement the prescription drug monitoring program, the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing will apply for a federal grant to fund the program, and the Pharmacy Examining Board will develop rules to regulate the program. Specifically, the new law stipulates that the board will develop rules to "require a pharmacist or practitioner to generate a record documenting each dispensing of a prescription drug [controlled substance] and to deliver the record to the board."

West Virginia - On March 11, 2010 the legislature adopted a **bill** under §60A-9-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, requiring all prescribers or dispensers of Schedule II-IV to have online access to the West Virginia Controlled Substances Monitoring Program database and limits liability of practitioners for good faith reliance on the database.

For more information from states on regulatory developments, visit NASCSA's website at www.nascsa.org and click on the "NEWS" section.

We hope you have enjoyed our our most recent edition of the NASCSA Newsletter. This electronic newsletter is sent periodically to update and inform members and other interested parties of matters that may be of interest. If you have news items to share or other information that may be helpful to our members, please forward to me.

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