



American Society of
Health-System Pharmacists®

Clinical Skills Competition



The winning team members from each school receive a complimentary registration (a \$325 value) for the 46th ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Top 10 National Finalists will receive a \$100 ASHP gift certificate and an iPod Touch preloaded with Lexi-Complete as part of their prize package!

National winners receive a **\$500** prize and a trophy for their school!



American Society of
Health-System Pharmacists
PHARMACY STUDENT FORUM

Sponsored by



The ASHP Clinical Skills Competition facilitates clinical skill development for pharmacy students by encouraging cooperation and teamwork. The competition is designed as an interactive, team-based analysis of clinical scenarios for hospital and health-system pharmacists to help patients make the best use of their medications.

The Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative (PPMI) recognizes that the competition increases pharmacy students' awareness of the importance of the pharmacist's role in direct patient care, and to realize their full potential as pharmaceutical care providers by developing a systematic approach to pharmacy practice and patient care.

Using a case study, teams are required to: identify pertinent information to make decisions on desired therapeutic outcomes; assess the current drug therapy regimen; design and recommend a pharmacist's care plan to achieve pharmacotherapeutic goals; and justify their care plan in an oral presentation.

Students will be evaluated on the accuracy, relevance, and completeness of their written information, and on the justification of their therapy recommendations as demonstrated by the oral defense of their care plan. These criteria were selected to evaluate the team's approach to clinical problem solving, an important component of providing pharmaceutical care.

School Competition

Students enter the competition through their student society of health-system pharmacy (or other designated competition coordinator) as self-selected teams of two. Each team will be given a patient case.

Patient cases will reflect actual scenarios that pharmacists may encounter in any patient-care venue. Patient, disease, and drug-specific information needed to develop a pharmaceutical care plan will be provided. Students will have access to references to guide their decision-making process.

Teams have two hours to complete the following tasks:

- Identify acute and chronic medical problems
- Develop a pharmacist's care plan

Each team will be required to give a ten minute oral presentation justifying their therapy recommendations.

The team with the highest combined score of the written and oral presentations will be declared the winner. The winning team from each school will advance to participate in the national competition held annually at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting.



Clinical Skills Competition

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National Competition

The national competition is a two-day event, conducted at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in a manner similar to the school competition, but with a more complex case. On the first day of the national competition, teams will compete in the semi-final round by completing the necessary tasks for case work-up (see school competition). The written work in the semi-final round will be evaluated, and ten finalists will be selected. These finalists will return in the final round on the second day to give an oral presentation. An announcement of the winning team will be made at the awards ceremony on Sunday.

Clinical Skills Competition Goals:

- To foster the development of clinical practice skills;
- To reinforce the pharmacist's responsibility for optimal drug therapy outcomes;
- To facilitate the use of a systematic approach to clinical problem solving; and
- To enhance oral and written communication skills.

Commonly-Asked Questions

Q. Who is eligible to participate in the competition?

A. Preliminary round (school-level) competition eligibility criteria are determined by each individual school. Advancement to the national level competition is limited to ASHP student members enrolled in a full time, entry-level, ACPE-accredited, Pharm.D. program who have not yet been licensed to practice or who hold a license but have not yet practiced.

Q. What knowledge and skills are needed to participate?

A. The Clinical Skills Competition is designed to test problem-solving skills. To be successful in the competition, participants should be knowledgeable in the following areas:

- pathophysiology
- clinical pharmacology & therapeutics
- clinical laboratory data interpretation
- medical terminology & abbreviations
- basic pharmacokinetics principles

The competition is not designed to test your knowledge, but to evaluate your ability to apply knowledge in these areas in solving drug therapy problems. Participating in the competition should be considered a learning experience and open to *students in all years of pharmacy school*.

Q. What prizes are available for students who compete in the competition?

A. At the local preliminary round (school level) competition, the winning team members from each school receive a complimentary ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting registration (a \$325 value) to compete at the semi-final national level competition in New Orleans on December 3, 2011. The top 10 national finalist team members receive a \$100 ASHP gift certificate, an iPod Touch loaded with a one-year subscription to Lexi-Complete and access to PharmPrep Online, ASHP's board exam preparatory tool. The national winners each receive a trophy, \$500, and a trophy for their school.

Q. How will teams be formed?

A. Students are encouraged to register as self-selected teams of two. However, individual students may sign up to be placed on teams by their school.

Q. Will references be available?

A. Yes, during the competition, participants will have access to drug information, drug interaction, laboratory interpretation, and therapeutics texts; and basic medical texts, as well as handheld access to Lexi-Complete with AHFS Essentials.

Q. How will teams be evaluated?

A. Teams will be evaluated on the clinical relevance, effectiveness, comprehensiveness, and practicality of their written recommendations. In addition, the clarity and logic of the oral presentation will be evaluated. To view the evaluation scoring sheets, see the Clinical Skills Competition Coordinator Handbook on the ASHP website.

Q. Where can I learn more about how to compete?

A. The *Clinical Skills Competition Coordinator Handbook* found in the student section of the ASHP website www.ashp.org/clinicalskills contains comprehensive information on all aspects of the competition including the process, format, sample case and answer key, etc.

Q. Where can I find additional information about the ASHP Clinical Skills Competition?

A. For more information, please contact your SSHP Faculty Advisor or:

**www.ashp.org/clinicalskills
Students@ashp.org**