



## Message from the Chair – July, 2011

**Brian Benson, Pharm.D.,**

Chair, Section of Inpatient Care Practitioners (2010-2011)

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Dear SICP Members:

A little over 12 months ago while we were in Tampa for the Summer Meeting, I was just beginning my tenure as Chair of the Section of Inpatient Care Practitioners (SICP); and in the Mile High City of Denver, my time as Chair came to an end. My how time flies! The Summer Meeting in Denver was one of the best. ASHP really knocked the ball out of the park by choosing this venue as meeting attendees enjoyed *great* weather, *great* facilities, *great* dining options and *great* outdoor events. It was simply a **GREAT** meeting and there were definitely *great* things to be enjoyed by all! [The Medication Safety Track](#) was certainly top notch. Okay, I may have a bit of bias since it was the Section of Inpatient Care Practitioners that developed the educational content for the track; but, if you were there and attended any of the sessions, you would know that my assessment isn't fully based upon bias. Hearing first hand from patients and families about life-changing medication events and how patients and healthcare practitioners can work together to prevent future adverse medication events was one the more rewarding aspects of the program. The sessions also allowed participants to hear from presenters of diverse disciplines (law, medicine, nursing and pharmacy) and thus gain a different, but equally important, perspective on medication safety.

[The House of Delegates](#) was productive and judging from the deliberations in the Open Forum and the various Caucuses, the New Business Item presented by the Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientist and the recommendations from the delegates, there will be much to do at the 2012 meeting of the House of Delegates in Baltimore! As the chair torch is passed to Jennifer Edwards, I want to thank the entire Executive Committee and Section Advisory Groups and committees for the work we accomplished as a Section. The many educational sessions, webinars, networking sessions and other deliverables time nor space will allow me to enumerate, were due to the dedication of the Section's advisory groups and committees as well as the leadership of the Section's Executive Committee – Noelle Chapman, Debby Cowan, Jennifer Edwards, Joanne Kowiatek, Richard Pacitti, Board Liaisons Chris Jolowsky and Randy Kuiper and, ASHP Staff and Secretary of the SICP Executive Committee, Anthea Francis. No one could work with a more committed and industrious group of professionals. Take a look at the [Section-developed educational offerings, tools and resources](#) and I'm sure you will agree.

Over the past year health-system pharmacy has seen many challenges – drug shortages of major note, limited residency spots, and health system mergers to name a few. Also, ASHP and the profession are embarking on change – setting the bar even higher for the profession as the Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative helps us blaze a new trail. As previously mentioned in one of my [previous chair’s messages](#), pharmacy will also take the lead in many health care initiatives such as *reducing* readmissions, *dealing with* transitions of care through Medication Therapy Management and Accountable Care Organizations, *implementing* electronic medical records and meaningful use, and *stepping closer* to independent practitioner status (it’s just a matter of time). There is no absence of the number of opportunities awaiting pharmacists. It’s up to us to “...[seize the moment](#)...”

In closing -

***It's not whatcha got, it's what you give.***

***It ain't the life you choose, it's the life you live – Tesla***

I’ve enjoyed my time as Chair and thank you for making it a great year! I look forward to seeing everyone in the ***Big Easy... NOLA... New Orleans*** for the [46<sup>th</sup> Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition December 4-8, 2011!](#)

*Brian Benson, Pharm.D.*

*Immediate Past Chair, Section of Inpatient Care Practitioners  
and*

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