



Section of  
**INPATIENT CARE  
PRACTITIONERS**

## In the Spotlight: Medication Safety Programming Rides High in Mile High City

A ground breaking series of medication safety programming that included multidisciplinary perspectives with presentations representing the fields of law, pharmacy, medicine and nursing, drew standing room only crowds during the 2011 ASHP Summer Meeting in Denver. The programs reviewed the historical background of patient safety and current initiatives to improve medication safety, with targeted presentations for nurses, physicians and pharmacists.



The track of programming, developed by the Section of Inpatient Care Practitioners under the leadership of program chairs, Joanne Kowiatek (University of Pittsburgh Medical Center), Jorge Carrillio (Patient Safety Program, U.S. Army) and Deborah Wagner (University of Michigan Health System), provided attendees with more than a much needed focus on a critical practice issue. Meeting attendees were spotted wearing “Med Safety Bling,” red silicone bracelets with the motto, “Medication Safety is Priority.” Janice Hoyt (Providence Regional Medical Center in Washington) served as the medication safety networking session facilitator. Hosted on Monday evening by the Section Advisory Group on Medication Safety, this networking session had over 75 people in attendance. During the session, two participants: Adrianna Parra from El Paso, Texas and Bissy Obi from Charleston, West Virginia, were the ecstatic raffle winners of the text, *Medication Safety: A Guide for Healthcare Facilities* authored by ASHP Executive Vice President and CEO, Henri R. Manassee, Jr. PhD., Sc.D. and Kasey K. Thompson, Pharm.D., vice –president of the ASHP office of policy, planning, and communications.

To culminate this three day medication safety experience, a tool kit containing resources to help practitioners lead medication safety efforts at their institutions will be available exclusively to Summer Meeting attendees in late-July/early August. Meeting presenters, facilitators and participants were so excited about the ASHP 2011 medication safety event that many have

already inquired about next year's Summer Meeting which will convene June 9-13 in Baltimore, Maryland. Based upon the resounding success of this year's medication safety track, chants of, "Next year, don't just hear, be there!" are already starting to be heard.