

Message from the Chair – July 2010



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Dear Members of the ASHP Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers:

Let me start my first Chair's Message by thanking you for allowing me to serve the Section as your Chair. I am honored by this opportunity and am committed to moving the profession forward with all of you. Having served the Section as Director-at-Large for the last three years, I am acutely aware of the great work that has come out of the Section and the Section Advisory Groups in particular.

This Fall, ASHP formally kicks off its Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative (PPMI) with the Practice Model Summit in Dallas, TX on November 7 – 9. Due to the nature of our membership, the Section is uniquely situated to be a driving force of ASHP's Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative (PPMI). Why is this initiative important and how can you be a part of it?

In 1985, ASHP brought together a group of thought leaders at what is now referred to as "The Hilton Head Conference." This conference was tasked with charting a course for the future of clinical pharmacy practice. Out of the conference emerged a vision and focus that has guided our progress over the last 25 years. Since Hilton Head, collaborative practice has advanced, pharmacy education and residency training have expanded, and pharmaceutical care was introduced as a philosophy of practice.¹

Now that the profession has produced a generation of clinical practitioners and leaders since Hilton Head, we must turn our attention to the future. We must create an environment where our profession can thrive and demonstrate its value in terms of safety, quality and total cost of care.

Healthcare reform has passed, but there are many details to be worked out. Change is a high national priority for the public, policymakers, payers, health professionals, and healthcare organizations. This reform will be driven by multiple factors including patient and caregiver demand for higher quality and safer care at lower costs; health professionals who are pursuing safer care for our society; health professional shortages; and demographic, social, and economic influences. Hospital and health-system pharmacists need to engage now in the development of a future practice model that is responsive to healthcare reform and the health- system of the future.²

While only just over 120 ASHP members can physically attend the PPMI summit in November 2010, we all have a role in the conference and the initiative. Here are some of the ways that we, as a Section, can influence the future of our profession through the PPMI:

Complete the PPMI survey! ASHP will be e-mailing the PPMI survey to members in late August 2010. This survey is critical as it will be used to collect data for the PPMI, and it will be used by the attendees to chart a course for the future.

Stay current! Keep up to date on the PPMI by frequenting [the PPMI Webpage](#). ASHP will use this page to promote the PPMI.

Engage! Talk about it with your staff and your residents. Focus on it through your state affiliate chapter meetings. Tell students about it as they rotate through your practice site.

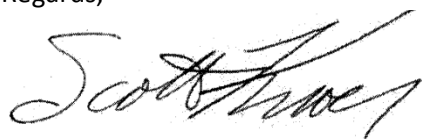
Think! How can you move the profession forward at your practice site? How can you provide higher quality and safer care at a lower cost? How can you ensure that we get an accurate medication history for every patient? How can you find the time to educate all of our patients through discharge counseling? How can you keep patients in your health-systems by not allowing third parties to fragment care and siphon off specialty pharmacy business?

Act! Practice change management. Create an environment where you leverage well trained technicians, technology and automation to allow pharmacists to practice at the “top of their license”.

The PPMI will be a major focus of the Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers this year. We will create tools for our members to use in order to create and implement a practice model vision. After the summit, we will harness the energy of our membership to drive practice model change. We will highlight member examples, and we will create programming to share successes.

Pharmacy is uniquely positioned to lead in an era of managing safety, quality and total costs. It is up to you to create the pharmacy practice model of the future!

Regards,



Scott Knoer, M.S., Pharm.D.
Chair, Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers 2010 - 2011

¹ Developing Practice Models in the 80's. Burnis Breland. ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. December, 2009. <http://www.ashp.org/DocLibrary/Policy/PPMI/MCM09-Breland-Slides.aspx>

²Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative Overview / Rationale.
<http://www.ashp.org/Import/PRACTICEANDPOLICY/PPMI/Overview.aspx>