

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

Timing for the development of the Model Curriculum for Pharmacy Technician Training closely followed publication in 1994 of the results of the Scope of Pharmacy Practice Project. The "Scope" project was sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Pharmaceutical Association, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, and National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. Its purpose was to identify the functions and responsibilities of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians and the associated skills and knowledge required to perform those responsibilities.

Issues relating to the training and use of pharmacy technicians are especially important at this time because pharmacy practice is undergoing a major transformation. The profession is in the process of adopting pharmaceutical care as its primary mission. Increased use of well-trained and appropriately supervised technicians is a key component of pharmacy's strategy for moving beyond its traditional functions. By delegating routine tasks to technicians, pharmacists will have more time to help patients solve medication-related problems. The long-term development of a well-defined corps of technical personnel in pharmacy depends on appropriate training for technicians, which in turn requires clear training goals, efficient and effective teaching methods, and an ample number of training programs. It is in this light that the model curriculum was created.

Development of the model curriculum was initiated by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, which has a long history of involvement in pharmacy technician issues, including the accreditation of pharmacy technician training programs. A multiorganizational steering committee guided the work of the design team that created the model curriculum. Members of the steering committee were:

- . Susan M. Meyer, Ph.D., American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
- . Joan S. Zaro, Ph.D., American Pharmaceutical Association
- . Deborah J. Tapley, R.Ph., Pharmacy Technicians Educators Council
- . Barbara White, CPT, American Association of Pharmacy Technicians
- . William A. Zellmer, M.P.H., American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

The design team consisted of the following individuals:

- . Project Director: Christine M. Nimmo, Ph.D., Director of Educational Resources, ASHP
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