

Message from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,



Resolutions

I hope this message finds each of you enjoying a wonderful New Year! As I write this message we are enjoying another mild winter day in Ohio. I trust each of you that were able to attend the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting had safe travels home. For those of you that were unable to make the meeting I would like to utilize this message to summarize some of our section's highlights from the meeting in Anaheim, CA.

Our section's advisory group for small and rural hospitals had an entire day's worth of educational sessions on Sunday at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. These sessions that dealt with medication safety, innovations, and providing clinical services specifically in small and rural hospitals were well attended. As well, the small and rural hospitals section advisory group conducted a "standing room only" networking session on Monday. The section's executive committee members attended many of these educational programs as well as the networking session and, like me, felt these educational programs and the networking session were extremely productive. I heard many colleagues not only exchanging ideas but also exchanging contact information to further discuss items of concern.

We also sponsored educational sessions that looked at practical approaches to evidence based medicine, healthcare technology, and medication reconciliation as these areas specially pertain to the inpatient care practitioner. In addition, our section also sponsored two other networking sessions; one dealing with remote order entry and the other dealing with medication safety. Once again and not surprisingly, both of these sessions were tremendously well attended and incredibly productive.

Our section's programming committee also met during the midyear clinical meeting to begin the process of putting together ideas for "section specific" educational programming during the 2007 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting to be held in Las Vegas, NV. The programming committee came prepared to work and that is exactly what they did. This meeting was efficiently conducted and thus was enormously productive. The programming committee came away from their meeting with some exceptionally solid areas of interest for the 2007 midyear clinical meeting as it pertains specifically to the inpatient care practitioner.

So as we put the 2006 year behind and move forward into 2007, I would like to suggest to each of you some thoughts for your new year's resolutions. For example, consider a resolution to become more involved with positive change at your place of employment. What about a resolution to improve a process within your pharmacy department or asking your supervisor to allow you to become involved in a multidisciplinary committee. New Year's resolutions don't need to be only about improving you but they can be about getting more involved with processes at your hospital or health-system. You just might find that this can be a tremendously rewarding resolution for both you and your employer.

If you are the type of person that is too involved then consider making a resolution to step away from some of your involvement by asking someone else in your department to step-up. Take the time to talk to your colleagues and get them actively involved in the process improvement strategies for your department as well as your institution. It is important that you show your colleagues that you have the faith and confidence in them to provide positive direction not only for the department but the institution. Empowering individuals to make a difference can be an extremely positive situation for all individuals involved. So take the time to consider a new and different resolution this year but most of all keep up the positive work to move our wonderful profession forward.

Sincerely,

Dale E. English II, Pharm.D., R. Ph.

Chair, Section of Inpatient Care Practitioners (2006-2007)

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