

House of Delegates

REPORT ON THE VIRTUAL HOUSE OF DELEGATES

May 13-19, 2021

RESULTS OF THE VOTING

From May 13 to 19, the ASHP House of Delegates (roster attached as an Appendix) voted on eight policy recommendations. Delegates approved six policy recommendations and two statements by 85% or more, the threshold for final approval.

The six policy recommendations and two statements **approved** are as follows:

Pharmacogenomics

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To advocate that pharmacists take a leadership role in pharmacogenomics-related patient testing, based on current or anticipated medication therapy; further,

To advocate for the inclusion of pharmacogenomic test results in medical and pharmacy records in a format that clearly states the implications of the results for drug therapy and facilitates availability of the genetic information throughout the continuum of care and over a patient's lifetime; further,

To encourage health systems to support an interprofessional effort to implement appropriate pharmacogenomics services and to determine appropriate dissemination of actionable genetic information to appropriate healthcare providers for review; further,

To encourage pharmacists to educate prescribers and patients about the use of pharmacogenomic tests and their appropriate application to drug therapy management; further,

To advocate that all health insurance policies provide coverage for pharmacogenomic testing to optimize patient care; further,

To encourage pharmacy workforce education on the use of pharmacogenomics and its

application to therapeutic decision-making.

Note: This policy would supersede ASHP policy 1104.

FDA Requirement for Dose-Response Information

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To advocate that the Food and Drug Administration require drug product manufacturers to (1) identify average dose-response curves for desirable and undesirable effects, and make this information available to healthcare providers; and (2) publish dose-response information, to the extent possible, on factors that lead to differences in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics among individuals; further,

To encourage drug product manufacturers to conduct studies on and publicly report minimum effective dose data.

Note: This policy would supersede ASHP policy 0602.

Medical Cannabis

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To recognize that there is limited evidence to support safe and effective use of medical cannabis; further,

To encourage research that quantifies the therapeutically active components and defines the effectiveness, safety, and clinical uses of medical cannabis; further,

To recognize that there is not a standardized product subject to the same regulations as a prescription drug product, and to advocate for the development of processes that would ensure standardized formulations that would ensure consistent potency and quality of medical cannabis; further,

To advocate for the alignment of federal and state laws to eliminate barriers to research on and therapeutic use of medical cannabis, including review of medical cannabis's status as a Schedule I controlled substance, and its potential for reclassification; further,

To encourage healthcare organizations to develop policies and procedures regarding the handling of medical cannabis consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and accreditation standards; further,

To promote the documentation of medical cannabis use and indication in the electronic health record; further,

To encourage education that prepares pharmacists as part of an interprofessional team to educate patients, caregivers, healthcare providers, and healthcare administrators about therapeutic and legal aspects of medical cannabis use.

Note: This policy would supersede ASHP policy 1101.

Nonprescription Availability of Oseltamivir

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To support expanded access to oseltamivir through a proposed intermediate category of drug products, as described by ASHP policy, that would be available from all pharmacists and licensed healthcare professionals (including pharmacists) who are authorized to prescribe medications, rather than nonprescription designation; further,

To support diagnosis and tracking of influenza through pharmacist-driven influenza point-of-care testing and reporting to the appropriate public health agencies prior to oseltamivir dispensing; further,

To support intraoperative documentation of oseltamivir dispensing and associated testing to all members of the healthcare team in outpatient and inpatient settings; further,

To advocate that specific and structured criteria be established for prescribing, dosing, and dispensing of oseltamivir for treatment and prophylaxis by pharmacists; further,

To advocate that pharmacist-provided counseling for oseltamivir and patient education on influenza be required for dispensing; further,

To continue to promote influenza vaccination by pharmacists, despite oseltamivir availability; further,

To advocate that the proposed reclassification of oseltamivir be accompanied by coverage changes by third-party payers to ensure that patient access is not compromised and that pharmacists are reimbursed for the clinical services provided.

Education and Training in Telehealth

Source: Council on Education and Workforce Development

To acknowledge that telehealth is a growing modality that supports the pharmacy workforce in providing direct patient care; further,

To support training and education for the pharmacy workforce in innovative models that support telehealth services; further,

To promote the incorporation of students and residents into virtual modalities of care and interdisciplinary collaboration; further,

To foster documentation and dissemination of best practices and outcomes achieved by

the pharmacy workforce as a result of telehealth services.

Supply Chain Resilience During Disasters and Public Health Emergencies

Source: Council on Pharmacy Management

To support building an enhanced and resilient hospital and health-system supply chain that is lean and economical during normal operations yet nimble enough to support patient care needs during large surges in demand for pharmaceuticals and medical supplies; further,

To advocate for ongoing federal evaluation of a national hazard vulnerability assessment to determine how pandemics and disasters present risks to healthcare and public health critical infrastructure; further,

To advocate for the development of critical pharmaceutical and medical supply requirement listings based on a national hazard vulnerability assessment to guide the composition of government and distributor-managed emergency stockpiles; further,

To urge Congress and state legislatures to direct medical supply and pharmaceutical distributors to manage both “private sector-owned” medical materiel (just-in-time for normal operations) and government-owned/distributor-managed emergency stockpiles (just-in-case for emergencies) that can flow into the private sector supply chain when release of government-owned materiel during public health emergencies, disasters, or contingencies is authorized.

ASHP Statement on the Pharmacist’s Role in Public Health

Source: Council on Pharmacy Practice

To approve the ASHP Statement on the Pharmacist’s Role in Public Health.

ASHP Statement on the Pharmacist’s Role in Clinical Pharmacogenomics

Source: Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientists

To approve the ASHP Statement on the Pharmacist’s Role in Clinical Pharmacogenomics.

NOTES ON VOTING

A total of 94% (201) of delegates to the virtual House of Delegates participated in the voting, with 94% (155) of state and territorial delegates voting. All Board members and 99% of registered past presidents voted, and 81% of state delegations had 100% participation by their delegates.