



Recognized  
Student Society



# Professional Development Project

## Student-Led Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam Review Course

*North Dakota State University College of Pharmacy*

What Did We Do?

### **Objective:**

The objective of our professional development project was to help pharmacy technician students become better prepared for the national pharmacy technician certification exam (PTCE) as the ND Board of Pharmacy required all technicians licensed in ND be certified as of February 2014. The national pass rate for the PTCE is 57%.

### **Plan:**

Members of our student society worked with the North Dakota State College of Science Pharmacy Technician Program to host the event. For the event, one 3<sup>rd</sup> year and two 2<sup>nd</sup> year pharmacy students utilized our student-developed study guide, and led a two-hour presentation to help review different topics that are included on the certification exam. The study guide contained four sections: Sterile/Nonsterile Compounding, Pharmacology and Brand/Generic, Law and Inventory/Billing, and Calculations. The pharmacy students were available for any questions the technician students may have had. The study guide also included a 90-question practice exam for students to utilize to help prepare for test day.

### **Outcome:**

This project allowed members of our student society to connect with a close aspect of our profession and assist them in their learning. It was a great learning experience for both parties in refreshing our knowledge in key areas of pharmacy. By advocating and preparing pharmacy technician students to successfully complete the certification exam, we are helping pharmacy technicians become better trained. This is in direct concordance with the Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative (PPMI) which would then allow more effective use of pharmacists in direct patient care. This review session received very positive reviews and comments from the technician students and faculty. The Northland Association of Pharmacy Technicians (NAPT) is using our study guide as a resource available to pharmacy technicians across the state of North Dakota to help technicians prepare for taking their national exams, which as of February 2014 is mandatory to hold a ND pharmacy technician license. The pass rate at NDSCS was 100% of those who attended the review session. We hope to continue to build on this project in the future as the benefits were substantial!

What Can You Do?

- **LEARN** what is required of the technicians in your state.
- **DEVELOP** a study guide to assist your technicians in achieving their requirements.
- **REACH OUT** to pharmacy technician schools in your area that may benefit from a review.
- **HAVE FUN** with your project, be interactive!

### **Questions? Contact:**

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