#### **Quarterly Newsletter for**



Summer Edition

2015

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## HEADLINE NEWS Congratulations Roseman University College of Pharmacy Class of 2015!

NVSHP would like to congratulate all the new graduates from Roseman University College of Pharmacy Class of 2015 Henderson campus! We wish them all the best and know that they will go on and make a positive impact on the lives of their patients.

"Go into the world and do well.

#### But more importantly, go into the world and do good." - Minor Myers

-Daniel Leiner

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-Miriam Rafiqi -Brenda Rivera -Arne Ryan -Richard Rzendzian -Manuel Saenz -Jennifer Saidfar -Jonathan Saidfar -Kelsey Seleska -Ritu Singh -Sarah Slama -Melissa Smith -Shirley Solimany -Lakshmmi Sriharsha Bingi -Thomas Stambeck -Danell Stutts -Jacqueline Talamantes Vega -Deborah Tillotson -Hai Tran -Jennifer Tran Doan -Prisca Umeh -Talia Villaverde -Keith Wellman -Richard Wiest -Colton Winder -Anna Wolf -Winnie Wong -Sanaz Yashari -Diana Yee -Mahbod Zargar -Nazanin Zarrinkhoo -Thinmar Zaw



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## **Chapter News**

#### **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**

### 2015 NVSHP Annual Meeting



Be Heard. Stay Connected. Create Change.

Come join your peers and attend Nevada's only state-associated pharmacy meeting, welcoming all pharmacists, student pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and allied healthcare professionals.

WHY: 4 hours of live CE (including I hour of law); Complimentary breakfast and lunch; Exhibitor showcase; Networking opportunities; Early bird rates available until September 27th, 2015

WHEN: Oct. 3rd 2015, Saturday (Registration starts at 8 AM)

WHERE: JA Nugget Casino Resort, 1100 Nugget Ave, Sparks, NV, 89431

For more information and to register, please follow the link below:

https://nshp.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com\_mc&view=mc&mcid=form\_198330

Have a topic you are passionate about and would like to present to fellow pharmacists, students, and nurses? NVSHP would like to hear from you! Please email nvshp@nvshp.org if you would like to present a CE or know of someone who would be interested. Also, please submit any topics that you would be interested in learning about through a CE.

## **Meet the New NVSHP Student Representative**

NVSHP would like to introduce its new student representative, Kate Keesling. She is a P2 at Roseman University College of Pharmacy and has called Las Vegas her home for the better part of a decade. She moved here to attend UNLV, where she received her Bachelors in Science degree in Biology with a concentration in Integrative Physiology. Due to some of her life events, she has focused her entire adult life volunteering as much as she can. She has worked with the homeless, helped with clean up and the rebuilding of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and volunteered internationally in Mexico and Ghana, to name a few of the efforts in which she has been involved. These experiences are what drove her to seek a career in pharmacy. Pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare provider, and she wanted a career in which she could easily be reached by patients in need. She believes that pharmacists are the first and last line of defense

for patient care and medication therapy. They help manage blood pressure and blood glucose, administer immunizations, and ensure medications that patients receive are safe and necessary to better the individual's wellbeing. She stated that "pharmacists are the most underutilized healthcare professional in respect to knowledge and training, but our profession is not static and we have come to a point where our role is shifting. We should not limit ourselves to the confinements of the role of pharmacists set decades earlier, but instead, mold our newly evolving field." She is excited to see how the advancements in the field of pharmacy will help provide more health care to those in need and she hopes to be an effective student representative during her tenure with NVSHP.



## Like us on Facebook

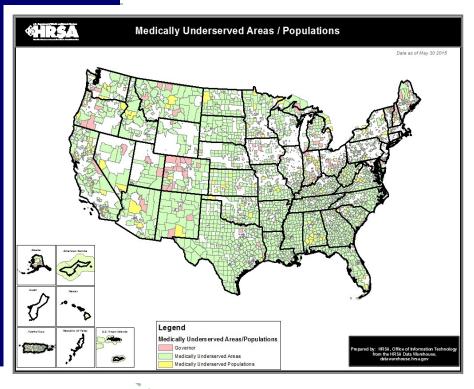
The site is up! You can now like us on Facebook, and stay up to date on upcoming events and the latest news. Just go on Facebook and type "NVSHP" in the search bar. Then invite your friends to like us too!

### National and State Provider Status Updates

Director of Legislation: Susan Nguyen, Pharm.D.

"allow pharmacists to get reimbursed for direct patient care in medically underserved areas (MUAs)." At the end of January, Representatives Brett Guthrie (R-KY), G.K. Butterfield (D-NC), Todd Young (R-IN), and Ron Kind (D-WI) reintroduced the Pharmacy and Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act, H.R. 592, previously known as H.R. 4190. H.R. 4190 had bipartisan support, but it expired with the last congressional session. With just a name change, the bill still proposes that the Society Security Act be amended to include pharmacists and allow pharmacists to get reimbursed for direct patient care in medically underserved areas (MUAs).<sup>1</sup> During the same week, Senators Charles Grassley (R-IA), Mark Kirk (R-IL), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), and Robert Casey (D-PA) introduced a companion bill, Pharmacy and Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act, S. 314<sup>2</sup> As of Mid-May, there are 119 cosponsors of the House bill and 14 cosponsors of the Senate bill. If passed, these pieces of legislation will allow pharmacists, under their state pharmacy practice acts, to deliver patient care to MUA that are defined by the federal government. A map of MUAs in the United States is available on the next page for your reference.

Even though National provider status efforts are important for the progression of our profession, it is up to the states to determine our scope of practice. On March 16, 2015, SB357 was introduced in our State Senate by Primary Sponsors: Senator Debbie Smith and Senator David Parks. NVSHP's lobbyist, Adam Porath, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP has played an integral role in the developing and advocating for this bill. In April 2015, Dr. Porath, Dr. Scott Stolte, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, Roseman University of Health Sciences, and I attended the Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Energy hearing and spoke in



support of this bill that would allow qualified pharmacists to be distinguished as Advanced Practice Pharmacists.<sup>3</sup>

These Advanced Practice Pharmacists would be able to perform the following activities, pursuant to NRS 639.2809 (Collaborative Practice Agreement)<sup>3</sup>:

-Perform limited physical assessments of a patient for the purposes of monitoring the toxicity and efficacy of drug therapy

-Implement, monitor, and modify drug therapy

-Order and interpret laboratory tests

-Refer a patient to other health care providers

Currently the bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. With the passage of national legislation, these Advanced Practice Pharmacists would most likely be the pharmacists allowed to work in Nevada's MUAs and reimbursed for their services.

It is wonderful news to hear that pharmacists have received bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate, and we encourage all pharmacists and student pharmacists to reach out to their national legislators in support of these bills. If you would like more information on



how you can get involved, please visit: <u>http://www.ashp.org/menu/Advocacy.aspx</u>. We will send you more updates regarding SB357, when we receive them.

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Pharmacist Provider Status Bill Reintroduced in House. <u>http://www.ashp.org/menu/News/PharmacyNews/NewsArticle.aspx?</u> id=4169. Accessed May 14, 2015.

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. ASHP Applauds Senate Bill That Recognizes Pharmacists as Providers. <u>http://www.ashp.org/menu/AboutUs/ForPress/</u> <u>PressReleases/PressRelease.aspx?id=841</u>. Accessed May 14, 2015.

Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau. SB357. <u>https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/</u> <u>REL/78th2015/Bill/1942/Overview</u>. Accessed May 14, 2015.

## **Upcoming Board of Pharmacy Meeting**

**Continuing Education**: CE credit of 4 hours, including I hour of law, will be given per day of Board meeting attendance. You are required to attend the board meeting for a full day to receive CE credit including the law credit. Remember to sign in for attendance.

Reno Meetings start at 9AM and are held at: Hyatt Place, 1790 E. Plumb Ln, Reno NV

Las Vegas meetings start at 9AM and are held at: Hilton Garden Inn Las Vegas Strip South, 7830 S. Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas, NV

- September 2 & 3: Reno
- October 14 & 15: Las Vegas
- December 2 & 3: Reno

"pharmacists have received bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate"

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# Diabetes Education: Alana Whittaker, Pharm. D.

Diabetes

"One of the biggest changes is with regards to when to start screening patients for diabetes." The American Diabetes Association (ADA) updates its Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes annually. These guidelines are published in the January 2015 Diabetes Care journal. This year they made updates to their guidelines regarding a number of issues. This article will address some of these changes.

One of the biggest changes is with regards to when to start screening patients for diabetes. Obesity is one of the risk factors for diabetes and normally non – Caucasian overweight (body mass index (BMI)  $\geq$  25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) patients with at least one risk factor should be screened. Asian Americans have been shown to have increased risk for the development of diabetes and other cardiovascular issues at lower BMIs; therefore the new recommendation is for Asian Americans to be screened at lower BMIs; their new cut off is  $\geq 23$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

There is a new pre – prandial blood glucose goal: 80 - 130 mg/dL versus the previous goal of 70 - 130 mg/dL. Other blood glucose goals have been kept the same. With regards to drug therapy that can be used in the treatment of diabetes, the algorithm now incorporates the sodium glucose 2 co - transporter inhibitors (SGLT -2 inhibitors).

Sedentary lifestyles are discouraged and one of the new recommendations is that patients should break up their sedentary time and patients should not have a period of time longer than 90 minutes without moving. E – Cigarettes should not be used as a substitution for cigarette smoking or facilitation of smoking cessation. The update also reflects the change that the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) made to its pneumococcal vaccination schedule with regards to diabetes. The PCV13 vaccine should now be administered to all diabetic patients if not previously vaccinated, in addition to the PPSV23 vaccine. The PCVI3 should be given and PPSV23 should be given 6 to 12 months after the PCV13 vaccine.



### **Education Committee Events**

There was a recent law CE on April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Reno which was very well attended. NVSHP also has several new CEs within the next several months. All of these CE events will be offered at no charge to attendees. In Las Vegas, the Southern Nevada VA residents will present a CE entitled "The Pharmacist's Role in the Concomitant Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines" on June 10th at 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM at St. Rose San Martin Campus. In Reno, the Northern Nevada residents from will present their residency conference with three different clinical tracks: outpatient, inpatient and cardiology focus. This residency conference will be held on June 11th at 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM in the Mack Auditorium of Renown Regional Medical Center. In Las Vegas on September 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM there will be a law CE, delivered by Mr. Luis Curras from the Nevada Board of Pharmacy, at the St. Rose San Martin Campus. The Education Committee thanks all the attendees of our previous CE events and look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events.

The NVSHP Annual Meeting will be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> this year at the JA Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks. 4 hours of continuing education credits will be available for both pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Registration will open this summer. Registration will include breakfast, lunch, an exhibitor showcase, networking opportunities and continuing education. Please mark this date on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you then. We will be sending out correspondence with updates within the next months.

## Zerbaxa: A new alternative for gram negative organisms

Written by Amy Hale, Pharm.D. Candidate Class of 2017, Winner of the "New Drug Information Article" Competition



You've just gotten off the phone with a flustered physician regarding a 45 year old female with pyelonephritis refractory to treatment thus far. You mentally review your arsenal... and it comes to you! A new medication that was approved in December 2014 for pyelonephritis. Zerbaxa, a combination of ceftolozane and tazobactam, may just be what this suffering patient needs.

Zerbaxa is a new gram-negative bactericidal agent and the first time a cephalosporin has been combined with a beta-lactamase inhibitor. Studies have established Zerbaxa to be similar in efficacy to levofloxacin, and successful against organisms resistant to levofloxacin. Ceftolozane has exhibited in vivo gram-negative activity against E. coli and P. aeruginosa, among other organisms.

Zerbaxa has been FDA-approved to treat complicated intra-abdominal infections in conjunction with metronidazole, and as a single medication regimen for complicated UTIs including pyelonephritis– perfect for your patient. The usual dosage of Zerbaxa is 1.5 grams

(I gram ceftolozane, 0.5 gram tazobactam) IV q8 hours over I hour for 4-14 days depending on diagnosis. It has not been approved in pediatric populations.

The drug requires reconstitution in normal saline or dextrose 5% in water before administration. Once reconstituted and diluted, it remains stable at room temperature for up to 24 hours and for 7 days when refrigerated between 2° and 8° Celsius. A handy table to assist providers in correct dosage, reconstitution, and dilution volumes is available in the package insert.

Zerbaxa should not be administered to patients who have a previous sensitivity to tazobactam or other beta-lactam antibiotics. A risk of most systemic antibacterials is C. diff, and may occur with Zerbaxa. Patients with renal dysfunction may receive Zerbaxa at an adjusted dose, and renal labs should be monitored in at-risk patients (but your patient has a CrCl greater than 50ml/min, so no worries there). No hepatic adjustments are necessary, as both components are renally excreted. Zerbaxa is pregnancy category B, and tazobactam crosses the placental barrier (but thankfully your patient isn't pregnant). It is recommended that Zerbaxa be reserved only for use in serious infections to prevent development of bacterial drug resistance – and in this case, after using every other antimicrobial available to you, it's the perfect time to try Zerbaxa.

Patients experience generally mild adverse effects, including diarrhea or constipation, headaches, nausea, and pyrexia. Rare, more serious adverse effects may include atrial fibrillation, hypokalemia, and thrombocytopenia. There have been no reported drug interactions; however, it is new to the market so caution should be exercised. Zerbaxa should not be administered via Y-site through another medication.

Zerbaxa represents new developments in battling drug resistance, and a new approach in antibiotic therapy. The combination of cephalosporin and beta-lactamase inhibitor can help increase the potency and effectiveness of the cephalosporin family in future novel medications, and provide new treatment options for patients who suffer multi-drug-resistant infections. You plan to follow-up with this patient in about 8 days – but maybe she'll be back with her family thanks to your familiarity with Zerbaxa.



Angela Yuen receiving the **USPHS Excellence in Public** Health Pharmacy Practice Awad

### United States Public Health Service, Excellence in **Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award**

Congratulations to our APhA-ASP/ASHP Vice President of Community Affairs and second year student, Angela Yuen, for winning the USPHS Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award. This prestigious award recognizes pharmacy student contributions to public health pharmacy practice. Angela was nominated by Dr. Mark Decerbo and presented the prestigious award in person by an Officer from the United States Public Health Service. Dean Stolte and Roseman's College of Pharmacy are very proud of Angela's accomplishments and her service to patients and the profession. Keep up the great work, Angela!

## Spring it Forward By: Jin Yi Pharm.D. Candidate Class of 2017

Spring is the time to welcome not only a change to the weather and season, but to celebrate new beginnings. We had more reasons to celebrate the new season at the Spring It Forward event, which was held at Galleria Mall in Henderson, Nevada on May 9, 2015. This

event was sponsored by a local radio station, Kids Mix 94.1, who provided fun springtime activities for children and their families.

Many organizations from Roseman University were there to represent their clubs and to help shoppers and their children celebrate the event. Student Alliance had a booth that featured an arts and crafts station where kids could make Mother's Day cards and a game booth with special prizes. There was also a health screening booth hosted by Kappa Psi Fraternity, a glucose screening booth managed by

the Roseman School of Nursing, and an informational booth



Peter Bautista (Class 2017) measuring the blood pressure of a local veteran

manned by the Roseman School of Orthodontics and the Drug Abuse Awareness Team (DAAT).

As a first year pharmacy student, this event was a little more special to me than any of the other events that I have attended in the past because it was not purely a health-related event. Participating at Spring It Forward made me feel like I had become a part of a community. I was honored to help children make their Mother's Day cards; I can still remember the big smile that appeared on one mom's face as her little boy handed her his creation. This event reminded me that it is important to give back and reach out to our community because there are also other areas in need in the community. The root of the pharmacy is not only in science and medication; it is also in the health, happiness and wellbeing of our families and local communities. I am looking forward to participating in Spring It Forward next year!

## Legislative Day Health Fair By: Matt Nelson Pharm. D./MBACandidate Class of 2016

In early February, Student Alliance Co-Advisor Mark Decerbo, along with representatives Angela Yuen, Judy Chau, Matt Nelson, and Yu Mao participated in the 2015 Roseman Legislative Day at Nevada's State Capitol in Carson City, Nevada. Two health fair screening stations on two different floors within the state capitol building were set up, and free blood pressure and glucose screenings were provided to lobbyists, Capitol staff, State Legislators, and other staff.

In addition to screening over 80 people, Student Alliance was given the opportunity to specifically advocate for SB459, a bill that re-classifies Naloxone, an opiate rescue agent, making it available from a pharmacist without a prescription. We also had the opportunity to observe a Senate session and better understand some of the proposed state legislations related to healthcare and our profession.

Student Alliance thanks Roseman University for this opportunity to serve our community and to advocate for our profession and the University.



## "A Day in the Life of..." By: Samantha Chan Pharm.D. Candidate Class of 2017

Attending the event, "A Day in the Life of..." was an enlightening experience for myself. When most people think of pharmacists, they think of them in the retail aspect of filling prescriptions and counseling patients and not in the respect that they may actually work in other realms within pharmacy. I will admit, when I was younger, I thought the same thing. When I considered a career in pharmacy, I only thought about working in retail and did not consider nor realize that there were other outlets out there. After listening to the guest speakers that day, I realized that pharmacy is actually a very vast field and that it delves into different areas as long as someone has an interest to pursue that pathway.

The guest speakers that spoke that day each worked in a different area of pharmacy and gave insight and details about their work, informing us that retail is not the only path. We can pursue a career in research, marketing



or specialize in a specific disease state if that's what interests us. What I gained from this experience is that pharmacy is a broad field and not to close off options that we do not know about yet; so retail is not the only road we have to take. If there is another event such as this one to learn about various fields within pharmacy, I would highly recommend other students to attend to learn more about the different areas of pharmacy, giving them the chance to meet someone in the field they may be interested in to start networking.

### ASHP to Begin Offering Second Residency Match in 2016

Director of Membership : Della Bahmandar, Pharm.D., MBA



"The old 'scramble' method to fill open positions is no longer the best option" To meet the needs of the rapidly growing number of pharmacists and student pharmacists who are seeking residencies as well as residency programs that are seeking applicants, ASHP will hold a Second Residency Match beginning in March 2016.

In recent years, the number of pharmacy students who wish to match with residencies across the U.S. has grown exponentially. The 2015 Pharmacy Resident Matching Program boasted the highest number of available positions since the program began in 1979. However, the post-Match figures showed 382 unfilled positions and 1,755 unmatched applicants—60 percent more unfilled positions and nine percent more unmatched applicants since 2013.

The new Phase II Match will ensure that student pharmacists have another structured opportunity to connect with open positions, helping to level the playing field and providing an orderly application process. Prior to this initiative, students who did not match in Phase I participated in an informal "Post-Match Scramble."

"The old 'scramble' method to fill open positions is no longer the best option due to the rapid increase in the number of positions as well as the number of unmatched candidates in recent years," said Janet Silvester, Pharm.D., M.B.A., FASHP, vice president, ASHP Accreditation Services Office. "This new second Match will ensure that a predictable, fair process is available for both students and residency programs."

Silvester added that a Post-Match Scramble will still be held after the Phase II Match, but that ASHP predicts it will include far fewer applicants and programs than in the past.

The new Phase II Match process requires that all pharmacy residency programs in the accreditation process (pre-candidate, candidate and accredited) participate in PhORCAS this fall.

# American Lung Association -



Association (ALA) to provide

students with a one-hour course on smoking cessation interventions. The project was created this year and has been a success; more than fifty students were trained and certified by ALA. As the project expands, Student Alliance hopes to provide these services at community outreach events to further improve patient wellbeing and emphasize the importance of Pharmacists' in providing preventative care.

# New FDA Approved Drugs for 2015

Drug Name	Active Ingredient	Date Approved	FDA-approved use on approval date
<u>Viberzi</u>	eluxadoline	5/27/2015	To treat irritable bowel syndrome with diarrhea (IBS-D) in adult men and women.
<u>Kybella</u>	deoxycholic acid	4/29/2015	To treat adults with moderate-to-severe fat below the chin, known as submental fat
<u>Cholbam</u>	cholic acid	3/17/2015	To treat pediatric and adult patients with bile acid synthesis disorders due to single enzyme defects, and for patients with peroxisomal disorders
<u>Unituxin</u>	dinutuximab	3/10/2015	To treat pediatric patients with high-risk neuroblastoma
Cresemba <u>capsule</u> <u>injection</u>	lsavuconazonium sulfate	3/6/2015	To treat adults with invasive aspergillosis and invasive mucormycosis, rare but serious infections
<u>Avycaz</u>	ceftazidime-avibactam	2/25/2015	To treat adults with complicated intra-abdominal infections (cIAI), in combination with metronidazole, and complicated urinary tract infections (cUTI), including kidney infections (pyelonephritis), who have limited or no alternative treatment options.
<u>Farydak</u>	panobinostat	2/23/2015	To treat patients with multiple myeloma
<u>Lenvima</u>	lenvatinib	2/13/2015	To treat patients with progressive, differentiated thyroid cancer (DTC) whose disease progressed despite receiving radioactive iodine therapy (radioactive iodine refractory disease).
<u>Ibrance</u>	palbociclib	2/3/2015	To treat advanced (metastatic) breast cancer
<u>Natpara</u>	parathyroid horomone	1/23/2015	To control hypocalcemia (low blood calcium levels) in patients with hypoparathyroidism
<u>Cosentyx</u>	secukinumab	1/21/2015	To treat adults with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis
<u>Savaysa</u>	edoxaban	1/8/2015	To reduce the risk of stroke and dangerous blood clots (systemic embolism) in patients with atrial fibrillation that is not caused by a heart valve problem

## **Become involved with NVSHP!**

NVSHP is seeking members who would like to actively participate in changing the profession of pharmacy. We would love to have you serve on one of our standing committees, Education, Membership and Legislation. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please email us at <u>nvshp@nvshp.org.</u>

