



March , 2010

Volume 3, Issue 4

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Points of Interest:

Check out the new forum page on our web site. Post new topics and contribute to on going discussions!
<http://nvshp.com/forum>

Renew your membership today! Visit our website for more information on how to renew: www.nvshp.com

Stay up to date on NVSHHP news and events. Email changes in your contact information to:
nvshpinfo@gmail.com.



Message From The President



Caryn Bing
NVSHHP President

I want to personally extend Happy New Year wishes to NVSHHP members and future members. I am delighted to start the New Year as your President in the company of a dynamic and energetic group of our colleagues.

By the time you read this, the Board of Directors and several key committees will have already met at least once to continue to important work

of our organization.

The Board of Directors Strategic Planning Meeting convenes on February 6 to review and update the goals, strategies, and action plans for 2010 and beyond. Two new elected board members, a new technician representative, and two additional students have joined the Board this year. See page 4 for the current Board list. I am looking forward to their input as the NVSHHP enters our fourth year.

Momentum continues to build within the all-volunteer committees. No moss will grow under the Education Committee after they planned and conducted the successful 2009 Annual Meeting in Reno. Work is already underway to develop and offer education programs for all our members, including the 2010 Annual

Meeting, set in Southern Nevada later this year.

Our Legislative Committee has been very active, and will continue to stay focused on the key regulatory and legislative issues facing pharmacy in our state. It's a legislative and election year, so you know there will be plenty to keep tabs on!

We are reconstituting our Membership Committee, seeking more active volunteers, and will have much to report in this newsletter and other email updates.

Please reach out to me or any Board Member if you have questions, ideas, or just want to talk about the organization or the profession. It is your association, and I am privileged to be part of it.

Regards,

Caryn Bing

Our Mission: *The mission of the Nevada Society of Health-System Pharmacists is to advance and support the practice of pharmacy in the health-systems and serve as a collective voice on issues related to medication use and public health.*

ASHP Midyear Meeting 2009

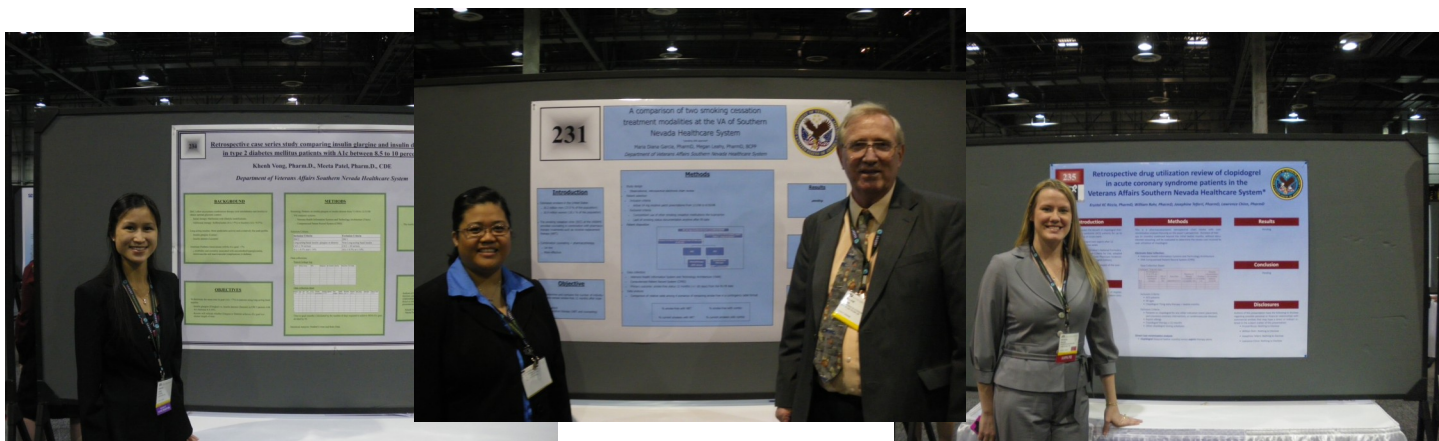
The 44th annual ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting was held at the Venetian Hotel and Sands Expo Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. Our state hosted over 20,000 attendees and over 250 exhibitors at the world's largest annual pharmacy gathering. NVSHP had a Town Hall Meeting during Midyear, where the newly elected officers were sworn in: Caryn Bing as President, Tracie Balvanz as President Elect, Tina Frisch as Director at Large, Robert Long as Director at Large and Diana Quach as Secretary. There were many ideas discussed by the attendees regarding how to increase membership, sparking interest in management and hot topics occurring in the community. Nevada also had a strong showing from our student and resident poster presentations (pictured on page 3), as well as from our state residency programs (pictured below).



Top Left: UMC Residency Booth
Top Right: Renown Residency Booth
Bottom Left: VA Reno Residency Booth
Bottom Right: VA Southern Nevada Residency Booth



Student and Resident Poster Presentations



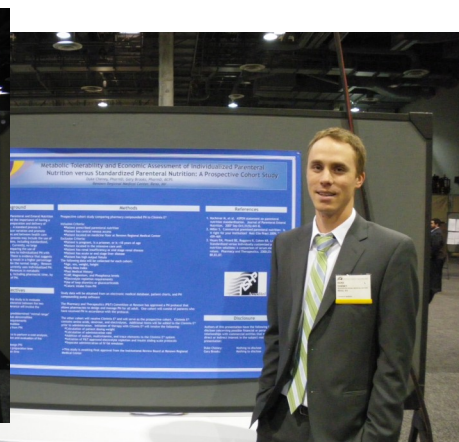
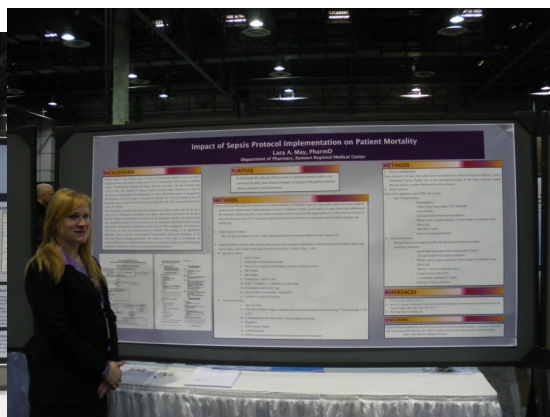
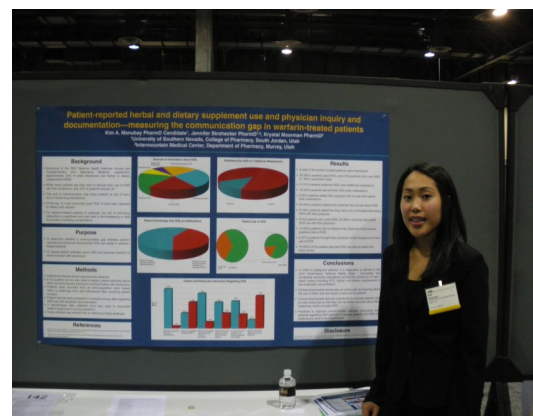
Left: Kendra Vong, VA Southern Nevada Pharmacy Resident
Middle: Dianna Garcia, VA Southern Nevada Pharmacy Resident, with preceptor Bill Rohr
Right: Krystal Riccio, VA Southern Nevada Pharmacy Resident



University of Southern Nevada

Student Poster Presentations

Left: Tyson Bigelow and Casey Hansen,
Right: Kim Manubay



Left: Renee Rife, Renown Medical Center Pharmacy Resident
Middle: Lara May, Renown Medical Center Pharmacy Resident
Right: Duke Cheney, Renown Medical Center Pharmacy Resident

Immediate Past President

Kathryn Craven
(KHC@att.net)

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Caryn Bing
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President-Elect

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Legislative Committee Chair

Shelly Spiro
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**Awards and Nominations
Committee Chair**

Julie Rodgers
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Technician Representative

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(mbrunton@kaplan.edu)

Student Representatives

Ana Negrete - P3 year
(anegrete@student.usn.edu)

Jeni Riddle - P2 year
(jridde@student.usn.edu)

Michelle Blair - P1 year
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Newsletter Editor

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Bowl of Hygeia Award

The Bowl of Hygeia award was presented to on October 17, 2009 at the NVSHIP annual meeting to Beth Foster, RPh. The award was presented by Larry Pinson from the State Board of Pharmacy on behalf of Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. The Bowl of Hygeia was the first recognition program of its kind to be given around the country. The program recognizes outstanding professional and civic achievements by pharmacy. This award has been presented to one individual from each of the 50 states yearly, for nearly 50 years.

Beth Foster is the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System (SNHCS) Pharmacy Service Chief located in Reno, NV. Mrs. Foster is responsible for and coordinates comprehensive and State of the Art Pharmacy Services for Veterans in a large catchment area of Northern Nevada and Northern California. Services include Inpatient and Outpatient distributive and clinical Pharmacy programs, Primary and Specialty Clinic programs, Pharmacoeconomics along with Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Minden, Fallon, Auburn, CA and soon in Susanville, CA.

She has been with the VA since 1984 and held a variety of positions to include Clinical Pharmacist and Associate Chief, Inpatient Pharmacy. In addition, oversight of various program responsibilities includes an active Pharmacy Student and ASHP accredited Residency program.

Beth is active in various professional organizations and committees and VA local, regional and national initiatives. She was one of the original members and active participants in the formerly named Nevada Society of Hospital Pharmacists and of the Nevada Pharmacy Alliance.

Prior to coming to Reno, Beth attended the University of Montana, School of Pharmacy program. Beth resides in Reno, Nevada with her husband Lorin and 2 children, Summer, 26 and Katie, 22, attending Optometry and Dental school.



Carson City's 6th Annual Flu POD

Carson City Health and Human Services, recently named a test site for the national public health accreditation, is always looking to build on its accomplishments. That's why it came as no surprise that the 6th Annual Free Seasonal Flu Vaccine Clinic, held on October 10th, 2009 was the most successful yet.

Every year, CCHHS hosts the flu vaccine clinic as a Point of Dispensing (POD) to exercise its emergency preparedness plans. This year, the department, with the help of nearly 200 volunteers, was able to vaccinate 4884 people at two clinics – a walk-in clinic at the Carson City Senior Center and a Drive-through at the Nevada National Guard. If the volunteers and members of the community who were vaccinated on the eve of the POD are included, the total number of people who received either the shot or the nasal spray is 5083. This count just exceeds the goal of 5000 vaccinations.

In order to ensure the both PODs ran smoothly, two pharmacists – Scott Mambourg and John Warren – were tapped to distribute the doses of vaccine to the nurses and track the doses as they were administered. This is the second year that pharmacists have shared their expertise for the POD, and it has streamlined the POD operation.

CCHHS is already planning for next years POD. If you are interested in participating, log on to mrcnevada.com and sign up. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a national organization dedicated to establishing teams of local medical and public health volunteers to contribute their skills, time, and expertise during times of community need. Members of Carson City MRC will serve to increase local medical capacity and to work as staff at point-of-dispensing sites and alternate care sites in the event of a public health emergency.

JTNN Substance Abuse Coalition

Join Together Northern Nevada (JTNN) is a substance abuse coalition. As a coalition, JTNN is made up of citizens, agencies, businesses and government, all of which are distinct and separate. JTNN acts as a neutral party who helps the community come together. As that process happens, we form a whole that has the ability to identify, measure, and plan how to deal with substance abuse problems in the community.

The lives and communities of millions of people throughout the world have been touched by substance abuse related problems. Washoe County is no different. Everyone has some version of what the problem is and what it looks like. It's drinking and driving, families split apart by chemical substances, drug related crime, and people becoming addicted to prescription drugs. How do we begin to solve these problems? JTNN believes that the key and the catalyst to making change is to get people together in a coalition.

In June JTNN gathered a group of concerned community partners together to discuss the abuse of prescription drugs and figure out what we could do about it. The first large project to come of this effort was the Prescription Drug Round Up that took place on October 17. The purpose of the Round Up was to get unused and unwanted prescription drugs out of medicine cabinets – where they can be stolen or abused – and safely dispose of them. With the help of our law enforcement partners we collected over 39,000 pills in four short hours. The event caught the attention of Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto with whom we are working to develop a coordinated state effort some time next year.

The next Prescription Drug Round Up in Reno is scheduled for April 24th. Please visit our website for more information and contact us if you are interested in helping out at the prescription drug round up. If you'd like to read more about the Round Up, visit JTNN's Blog at <http://jtnn.blogspot.com/> and to find out more about JTNN, visit www.jtnn.org.

Newsletter Materials

As always, we are looking for material for our newsletter. Please help us by contributing ideas, articles, and suggestions. Don't wait—submit your work for publication in the NVSHP newsletter today! Please send your questions or comments to mbartholow1@gmail.com

Announcements

Make sure to check out the HealthSystemCE website: www.healthsystemce.org

It's a great source for news, information, and FREE CE!!!

Available CE Courses Include:

- Clinical Practice
- Acute Post-Operative Pain: Strategies for Management
- Antiplatelet Therapy Following Coronary Artery Stent Placement
- Botulinum Toxin–Update on Use in Movement Disorders
- Exploring Novel Treatment Options for Type 2 Diabetes
- Immunology and Rheumatoid Arthritis: the Role of Biologic Response Modifiers
- Respiratory Tract Infections-Hospital Acquired Pneumonia
- Treatment of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
- Understanding the Treatment Options in Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Patient Safety and Joint Commission Topics
- Core Performance Measures - An Overview
- Medication Errors: A Focus on Patient Safety



Upcoming University of Southern Nevada Continuing Education Program

Preceptor Development Seminar: Student Communication

Nevada

March 9, 2010
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
University of Southern Nevada
College of Pharmacy
11 Sunset Way
Henderson, NV 89014

Utah

March 10, 2010
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
University of Southern Nevada
College of Pharmacy
10920 S. River Front Parkway
South Jordan, Utah 84095

Program Schedule

5:30 – 6:30

Dinner

6:30 – 8:30

Communicating With Your Students: Inspiring learning and avoiding conflict.

Objectives:

- Describe potential theories as to why disrespectful behaviors are perpetrated by student healthcare professionals
- Develop strategies for communicating expectations to students while maintaining a positive and productive teaching environment
- Recognize verbal and non-verbal communication approaches which may be more likely to make students uncooperative or defensive
- Evaluate your own communication habits in order to determine those which are helping and those which are hurting your interactions with students
- Deliver negative feedback in a way that is least likely to incite an emotional reaction from a student

For more information, directions or to register for this program, call or email Kathy Lindsay (klindsay@usn.edu, 702-968-2049). *Please register by no later than Monday, March 1, 2010.* This program is open to all current and prospective USN preceptors. There is no fee associated with registration for this program.

Institutional Highlight: Centennial Hills Hospital Medical Center

Centennial Hills Hospital Medical Center is a 171 bed facility located in Northwest Las Vegas and is the newest facility in the greater Las Vegas area. Since opening in January 2008, the hospital has experienced rapid growth and a number of challenges, but has emerged as the fastest growing facility in Nevada.

The pharmacy department has been led by David Halterman, PharmD, since October, 2007. The department started with only five people: two pharmacists, two technicians and the director. "Opening a hospital is a bit like riding a rollercoaster blindfolded. You know generally where you are going and how you are going to get there, but are constantly surprised by the issues that crop up and how fast things change." Within two months of opening, the pharmacy added another pharmacist and technician and then added more staff six months later when the pharmacy hours expanded. The department staff now consists of five pharmacists and five techs. A buyer was just hired in early 2010.

"We have had our share of difficulties," said David. "When we first expanded hours, administration wanted more than just someone to enter orders at night. We had to prove our worth to the facility leadership. Thankfully, it coincided with the hospital getting its first core measures scores and we saw a huge opportunity."

Core measures are national health care initiatives to improve health care delivery and are a direct reflection of the quality of care that a hospital provides to its patients. Every hospital in the country is working to improve their core measures, but in looking at the details, it can be difficult to see where pharmacy can have an impact. "These are generally considered 'front line' measures and pharmacy has rarely been thought of as a 'front line' service," says David, "but there are definitely areas where pharmacy can make an impact."

The two areas where the Centennial pharmacy made its impact was vaccinations (part of the Pneumonia core measure) and post-op antibiotic discontinuation (part of the Surgical Infection Prevention [SCIP] core measure). "We knew we had the tools and the means," he said. "It was just a matter of coming up with a plan that would let us positively affect these items daily with the staff on hand."

For the vaccinations, the Centennial Hills group set up a report from their automated dispensing system that showed active orders for all the pneumonia and flu vaccines. "Vaccinations are one time orders," explained David. "Once they are dispensed they disappear from the report, so we knew if the order was still active, it hadn't been given yet." With report in hand, the pharmacists would place a call to all members of nursing staff who had an active order asking that it be given. They would do this in the middle of the afternoon when things had generally slowed down and there was more staff in the pharmacy. The first month score with pharmacy involvement resulted in a score of 100%. The score has remained very high ever since. Said David, "I think everyone but the pharmacy was a bit shocked by the improvement, but we knew this would be a slam dunk."

For surgical prophylaxis, Centennial wanted to improve its scores in post-op antibiotic discontinuation. The staff was struggling on how to get a good handle on things, but David knew his staff was up to the challenge. "It was a bit harder to sell to my staff that we could make an impact here, but these were medications and dosing times. That *is* pharmacy's responsibility. We had to make an impact."

To tackle the problem, Centennial made two requests. First, they asked that the daily surgical schedule be faxed to the pharmacy every day. This made tracking the patients easy. Second, they asked for – and received – official clarification that the pre-op dose of antibiotic would be considered the first dose of any 'post-op' regimen. "Most post-op orders specify a total number of doses such as 'cefazolin 1 gram q8h x 3' or a time frame such as 'x 24h,'" explained David, "but SCIP also requires that the pre-operative dose be given within one hour of cut time. It didn't make sense to start the regimen with another dose just an hour or two after the pre-op dose, which is what we would have to do to meet the 24 hour cut off." In essence, this change reduced the number of doses given post op by one. The pharmacists would now enter the orders using the pre-op dose as the 'first dose' which made discontinuation within 24 hours much easier.

Were there any issues? "Yes," said David. "From a nursing standpoint, the orders that stated a specific number of doses were an issue. I understood that they wanted to carry out that order that was being interpreted as three doses post operatively. There was definitely some confusion." David worked with the hospital CNO and surgery representatives to come up with a solution that would make the new process adhere to policy for the nurses while also accomplishing the goals of SCIP. The group's solution was to add the 'first-dose' rule to their therapeutic substitution protocol. "Once we were able to point to a protocol, the nurses felt more comfortable. We also spent a great deal of time explaining the rules to the nursing staff in the weeks after the change was made." Some may think the physicians would have an issue with these changes, but David explains. "They were the ones who gave us the clarification. Most of the SCIP core measure is coming directly from the surgical literature. Once the surgeons understood what we were doing they were on board without any issues. They know that this is good for the patient." The result has been a near continuous 100% score on post-op antibiotic discontinuation with no increases in post op infection rates.

Even with these major accomplishments, the Centennial Hills pharmacy team understands there are more challenges on the horizon. Currently, the hospital is seeing 40% more patients than when these programs were instituted without additional staff. "We're still on the roller coaster," said David. "We are just a little more prepared for the ups and downs. The blindfold is off and we are looking forward to what is coming around the next corner."

OPERATION Medicine Cabinet

operationmedicinecabinetlv.org

**DROP OFF EXPIRED AND
UNUSED PRESCRIPTION AND
OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS FOR
SECURE AND SAFE DISPOSAL**

ANONYMOUS AND NO-QUESTIONS-ASKED

9A.M. - 5P.M.

SATURDAY, FEB. 20, 2010

LAS VEGAS SPORTS CENTER

121 EAST SUNSET RD.

(LAS VEGAS BLVD. & SUNSET ROAD)

**HELP PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY FROM
PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER
DRUG ABUSE**



**SOUTHERN NEVADA
WATER AUTHORITY**



PHARMACY SAFETY AND SECURITY

Presented by Marc Gonzalez, Pharm.D.

**2 hours of accredited CE (pending) for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians through the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy*

This course will address the growing issue of pharmaceutical diversion and abuse, as well as help the health care practitioner evaluate the circumstances that surround the trends, patterns, and risk factors associated with pharmacy crime.

YOU WILL LEARN:

How to secure the pharmacy: A review of intrusion detection systems, intrusion devices and video surveillance systems.

Techniques to become a good witness and protect your patients, employees and yourself during stressful situations such as: robberies, burglaries, forged/alterd prescriptions, and fraudulent call in prescriptions

How to recognize and address losses due to an impaired employee

Federal regulations that apply to controlled substance handling/prescribing

ABOUT THE TRAINER:

Marc Gonzalez, Pharm.D., is a Director, Law Enforcement Liaison/Education at Purdue Pharma. As an educator he teaches law enforcement and healthcare groups about lawful prescribing and prevention of pharmaceutical diversion. He earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Southern California, School of Pharmacy.

Dr. Gonzalez served as head of the Professional Diversion Intelligence Network/Drug Enforcement Administration, a training and task force dealing with pharmaceutical diversion cases nation-wide.

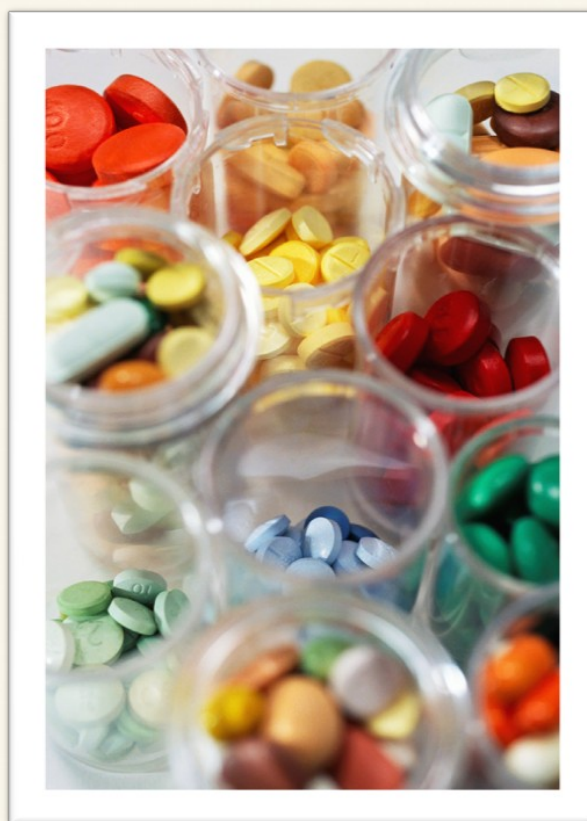
Dr. Gonzalez was a clinical Instructor of Pharmacy at the University of Southern California, School of Pharmacy, and is also a retired law enforcement officer.

WHEN: April 21, 2010 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Regional Public Safety Training Center
5190 Spectrum Blvd., Room 105
Reno, NV 89521

COST: Free - Dinner will be provided at 5:30 p.m.

***Seating is limited - registration contact is below.**



Sponsored by:



Please contact Stacy Shamblin to register. | 775-657-4794 | Shamblins@reno.gov