Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association

2015—16 Legislative Successes

Speaking with a unified voice for pharmacy, PPA leads the charge on numerous issues throughout any given legislative session. PPA's legislative and regulatory advocacy through stakeholder meetings, meetings with legislators, attendance at fundraisers with the help of PharmPAC, member Calls to Action and more have led to the enactment of several important measures, which are highlighted below.

Act 169 of 2016 - PBM Registration, Generic Drug Pricing Transparency, Pharmacy Audit Integrity and PACE Reimbursement

MAJOR LEGISLATIVE VICTORY! On November 21, 2016, after decade-long fight with PBMs and the Insurance Industry, PPA is happy to announce that Governor Wolf signed Act 169 of 2016 into law. This act, a priority of PPA's for many legislative sessions, takes a giant step forward towards greater transparency between PBMs and community pharmacies! Specifically, Act 169 of 2016 will:

- **Require Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) to register with the Department of Insurance;** (Effective February 19, 2017);
- **Provide for greater transparency in the establishment and management of multiple source generic lists to pharmacies;** (Effective May 20, 2017);
- **Provides for uniform and fair standards in the auditing of pharmacy claims** (Effective May 20, 2017); and
- **Rebalances PACE reimbursement to National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) + a $13 professional dispensing fee or Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) +3.2% (when NADAC is not available).** (Effective December 1, 2016)

Act 124 of 2016 - Changes to PDMP Act and CE Requirements (Effective January 1, 2017)

PPA worked with the Governor's Administration on Act 124 which will require continuing education in pain management, addiction and dispensing of opioids, requires dispensers to report to the ABC-MAP on a more frequent basis and requires dispensers to query the ABC-MAP if a series of conditions apply; which will allow dispensers a greater opportunity to use their professional judgment in checking the ABC-MAP.

Act 123 of 2016 - Expanding Take-Back Locations (Effective January 1, 2017)

This Act exempts household prescription drug and pharmaceutical waste programs and events conducted by pharmacies from registering with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) prior to commencing collection of unused, expired, or unwanted prescription drugs and OTCs. *PLEASE NOTE: Collection of controlled substances must follow DEA rules.*



Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association

More Legislative Successes!

Act 95 of 2016—Substitution of Interchangeable Biological Products (In Effect)

After many years of working on this issue, PPA was able, in collaboration with other pharmacy groups, to negotiate an acceptable version. The Act amends the Generic Substitution Law by adding interchangeable biological products and biological products. Pharmacists may substitute a biological product for a prescribed biological product if it is considered interchangeable by the FDA, the prescriber does not indicate that substitution is prohibited, the patient presenting the prescription receives notification of the substitution and the dispenser or a designee notifies the prescriber of the substitution within 72 hours.

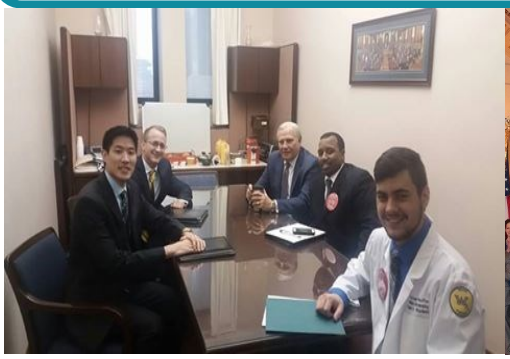
Act 8 of 2015 - Expansion of Immunization Opportunities (In Effect)

With the help of broad, bi-partisan legislative support generated by PPA, this new act will lower the age that pharmacists can provide the flu vaccine only to patients nine years of age and older with parental consent and allow trained, licensed pharmacy interns to provide immunizations only under the direct supervision of a pharmacist who possesses an immunization license.

Act 43 of 2015—Registering Nonresident Pharmacies (In Effect)

PPA worked very closely with the General Assembly in crafting this new law which requires pharmacies located outside of Pennsylvania who ship, mail, or deliver prescriptions in Pennsylvania to be registered with the Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy. This law adds Pennsylvania to the other 49 states who require nonresident pharmacies to register in their respective states; and will provide the board with authority to take action if there are compliance issues with nonresident pharmacies in other states.

These are NOT our only wins! PPA is a recognized leader on Capitol Hill and our statewide advocacy efforts will continue to lead the charge for pharmacy in the future and beyond. **For more information on these issues, and more, please visit www.papharmacists.com/page/issues.**







PENNSYLVANIA PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION

Advocating for the profession, advancing patient care