

CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF HEALTH-SYSTEM PHARMACISTS
PROPOSAL IN STP FORMAT

PROPOSAL F

PROPOSAL: **Establish a CSHP Professional Policy on Health Care Coverage**

SUBMITTED BY: CSHP Board of Directors

DATE: June 4, 2009

SITUATION

1. Every year, the California State Senate or Assembly discusses legislation related to health care coverage, i.e. Universal Health Care or Single-Payor.
2. CSHP's Government Affairs Advisory Committee (GAAC) discusses bills that affect the practice of pharmacy.
3. CSHP's GAAC is responsible for suggesting preliminary positions and priorities on legislation to the CSHP Board of Directors. CSHP Professional Policy is often used in establishing a legislative preliminary position and priority.
4. In 2009, Senator Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) authored Senate Bill (SB) 810 (Health Care Coverage Single Payor). In prior years, termed-out Senator Sheila Kuehl authored similar legislation numerous times.
5. CSHP does not have a professional policy on the topic of universal health care.
6. CSHP took a position of watch/level 3 on SB 810.
7. Both ASHP and CPhA have policies related to health care coverage:
 - a. **ASHP Policy 0512: FULL HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

To advocate full health insurance coverage for all persons living in the United States, including coverage of prescription medications and related pharmacist patient-care services; further,

To advocate that all health insurers, both public and private, use the full range of available methods to (1) ensure the provision of appropriate, safe, and cost-effective health care services for their beneficiaries, (2) optimize the treatment outcomes of the insured population, and (3) minimize overall program costs; further,

To advocate that health insurers seek to optimize continuity of care in their design of benefit plans.

- b. **CPhA 2008-01 UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE**

The California Pharmacists Association supports healthcare delivery and financing systems which incorporate the following:

**CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF HEALTH-SYSTEM PHARMACISTS
PROPOSAL IN STP FORMAT**

- 1) Healthcare coverage for all whether multi-payor or single-payor
 - 2) Allows for the purchase of additional coverage outside the basic plan
 - 3) Permits patients to choose the healthcare provider of their choice
 - 4) An independent review board, which includes providers, to make benefit/coverage decisions
 - 5) A mechanism to advance the continued improvement of health care
 - 6) The option for providers to balance bill their usual and customary rates
 - 7) Mechanisms to address fraud in a timely and appropriate manner
 - 8) A pharmacy benefit package that includes reimbursement for medications and compensation for pharmacist services, such as Medication Therapy Management (MTM)
 - 9) A uniform system for billing and prior authorization procedures.
8. The 2009 Council on Professional Affairs (COPA) reviewed CPhA's Professional Policy 2008-01 on Universal Healthcare and was in support of the overall policy; however, noted it as being a lofty statement to support. COPA recommended that GAAC provide the professional policy on universal health care.
9. On June 1, 2009, the GAAC reviewed both CPhA's and ASHP's policies on health care coverage and determined to use ASHP's policy as the framework for the creation of a recommended CSHP policy on health care coverage.

TARGET

1. To provide CSHP with a stance on the issue of universal health care coverage.
2. Allow CSHP's GAAC and leadership to act accordingly when health care discussions occur.
3. To have a broad policy outlining CSHP's policy on universal health care coverage.

PROPOSAL

1. Establish a CSHP Professional Policy on ~~universal~~ health care coverage as follows:

~~UNIVERSAL~~ HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

To advocate ~~universal~~ health insurance coverage for all persons living in California, including coverage of prescription medications and related pharmacist patient-care services; further,

To advocate that all health insurers, both public and private, use the full range of available methods to:

- (1) ensure the provision of appropriate, safe, and cost-effective health care services for their beneficiaries,

**CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF HEALTH-SYSTEM PHARMACISTS
PROPOSAL IN STP FORMAT**

(2) optimize the treatment outcomes of the insured population, and

(3) enhance patient safety by reducing the risk of adverse events; further,

To advocate that health insurers seek to optimize continuity of care in their design of benefit plans.

RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR PROPOSED ACTION(S)

Financial:	0
EVP time:	0
Staff time:	0

CSHP BOARD ACTION

At its July 10-11, 2009 meeting, the Board of Directors amended and approved this proposal as noted.