Senate Bill (SB) 493 was passed in 2013 and the California Board of Pharmacy recently passed regulations for its implementation. The legislation recognizes pharmacists as health care providers and expands their scope of practice to a more active role in medication management in the community and hospital settings. Under SB 493, California pharmacists could initiate certain prescriptions, prescribe medications for travel abroad recommended by the CDC, furnish nicotine replacement therapy and hormonal contraceptives, and order laboratory tests to monitor and manage the efficacy and toxicity of drug therapies for patients with chronic conditions.

SB 493 also recognizes a new licensure category for Advanced Practice Pharmacist (APP). This designation recognizes pharmacists for their education, training, experience and expertise. The APP designation gives pharmacists the authority to perform clinical duties that are already being done by many pharmacists across the nation, such as in New Mexico and North Carolina. In addition, the APP designation will allow California pharmacists to bill insurers for their clinical services and consultations. Pharmacists seeking to apply for the APP recognition must complete any 2 of the following 3 criteria to receive the designation: (1) possess current certification in a relevant area of practice, (2) complete a postgraduate residency program in the United States through an accredited postgraduate institution, and/or (3) provide at least 1,500 hours or one year of clinical experience under a collaborative practice agreement or protocol to patients, where clinical experience includes initiating, modifying, adjusting or discontinuing drug therapy. In addition, both CSHP, in collaboration with Touro University School of Pharmacy, and CPhA are offering APP certificate programs. The APP application is available on the California Board of Pharmacy website.

The CSHP Foundation is an avenue for individuals and organizations seeking to provide more information on the expanding role of the pharmacist or studying the impact of APP pharmacists. The CSHP Foundation sponsors educational events, publications and grant funding.

APP recognition allows California pharmacists to perform additional clinical functions in the evaluation and management of diseases and health conditions in collaboration with other health care providers and to refer patients to other health care providers. As the health care landscape is dynamically changing and the demand for pharmacist specialists is increasing, there are many opportunities for pharmacists to step up and actively participate in medication management and to provide patient care alongside other health care providers. The APP designation further expands the role of pharmacists and allow us to be valuable, skilled health care providers.
Attention Students: Two $1,500 Scholarships Available!

The CSHP Research and Education Foundation is accepting applications for the Joseph H. Beckerman Memorial Scholarship and John J. Carbone Memorial Scholarship Fund. These $1,500 scholarships are awarded annually to a California pharmacy student who exhibits a desire for a career in health-system pharmacy. For a student to qualify, she or he must also demonstrate characteristics that were important to these leaders in Pharmacy. For more information, see the CSHP Foundation website.

Joseph H. Beckerman Memorial Scholarship
John J. Carbone Memorial Scholarship

Are You Interested in Serving on the CSHP Foundation Board?
- Applications Due April 2017 -

Now is your chance to get more involved with the CSHP Research and Education Foundation by joining the Foundation Board of Directors. The Board term is three years and it is a fun, fulfilling way to make a difference to your profession. Foundation Board members represent the best in philanthropy and service.

If you are interested in serving on the Foundation Board and would like additional information, please contact us at foundation@cshp.org.

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