Announcing the Fall 2012 Student Writing Competition

Explain why pharmacy compounding has and continues to be a medical necessity.

The IACP Foundation created its semi-annual Student Writing Competition to recognize outstanding original papers on a particular topic affecting pharmacy compounding. THREE winners will be selected by a review committee from the papers submitted. The winners of this writing competition will each receive a $500 cash prize. All pharmacy students are encouraged to compete.

What is Pharmacy Compounding?
Pharmacy compounding is the long-established tradition in pharmacy practice that enables physicians to prescribe and patients to take medicines that are specially prepared by pharmacists to meet patients’ individual needs. Millions of Americans have unique health care needs that off-the-shelf prescription medications cannot meet. For them, personalized medication solutions—mixed safely by trained, licensed pharmacists—are the only option to achieve the desired health care outcome. These pharmacists work with physicians, nurse practitioners and veterinarians to create customized medication solutions for patients and animals whose health care needs are not met by manufactured medications.

Applicant Criteria
1. All authors must be currently enrolled in an accredited US or Canadian school or college of pharmacy.
2. No paper that has been previously published in any form will be considered; however, paper written for scholarly classes will be allowed as long as they have not been published.
3. All papers submitted will receive consideration for publication in the IACP publication Custom Rx Connection.

Format
1. The format rules below must be followed exactly. PAPERS THAT DO NOT FOLLOW ALL OF THESE RULES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
2. The paper's length must not exceed 1,750 total words. The word count is applicable to the total paper; the words on the title page, footnotes, figures and tables are to be included.
3. All papers are to be submitted in Word document format, using 12 point Times New Roman font for all text. Papers must be typed double-spaced, with one-inch margins and all pages are to be numbered. All citations are to be as footnotes, which should be in 10 point Times New Roman font, single-spaced, and with one-inch margins. The theme for the Fall 2012 Student Writing Competition is: Explain why pharmacy compounding has and continues to be a medical necessity.
4. The first page must be the cover page, which must include the following information: the author’s name and contact information, including a telephone number, email address, the name of the author’s school, and the name, title and contact information of the author’s faculty advisor. The cover page must also contain the final word count obtained from Word.

Content
1. Papers must contain only uncollaborated original work but may relate to research done by the author.
2. Papers should address the question of why pharmacy compounding has and continues to be a medical necessity.
3. Although papers may have been submitted for a grade at the author’s school, the author may not have submitted the paper elsewhere for publication.

Judging
1. All papers will be judged by the Research Committee of the IACP Foundation. Some of the criteria the Committee will use includes: appropriateness of subject matter, originality, quality of writing, and citations/support for arguments. The decision of the judges is final.
2. All prizes may not be awarded each year if the Education Committee determines that no entry meets the standards of a winning paper.

Deadline and Submission
1. The papers must be submitted only via email to foundation@iacprx.org. Papers transmitted or sent in any other form will not be considered for the writing competition.
2. Authors must submit their papers by end of the business day, Monday, December 31, 2012. Under no circumstances will any paper be considered unless it is submitted by the deadline and in the required format. Winners will be notified by email and announced at the IACP Educational Conference in February 2013.
3. Direct questions to foundation@iacprx.org or call 832.673.0860