

Newsletter of the

Oklahoma Society of Health-System Pharmacists



October - December 2003

Visit our website at
www.oshp.net

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Mark your Calendar

ASHP Midyear Meeting
New Orleans, LA
Dec 7th-11th, 2003

Oklahoma Reception
Wyndam Hotel, Riverbend Terrace
New Orleans, LA
Dec 7th, 2003
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
RSVP by Dec 1st (405-307-3316)

Alcalde Residency Conference
Houston, Tx
April 15th-17th, 2004

OSHP Annual Meeting
(information below is tentative)
Mercy Health Center, OKC
April 22nd-23rd, 2004

ASHP Summer Meeting
Las Vegas, NV
June 19th-23rd, 2004

President's Column

Dick Abrahamson, OSHP President



Greetings from your president. It seems like last week when I wrote a note expressing the refreshment of summer vacations. Now, summer is gone and the 2003 OSHP Fall Meeting on October 3, 2003 is history. How time flies!

Hats off to the program committee who arranged an excellent seminar on pain management. Those who deserve recognition and a note of thanks are Edna Patatanian, president-elect, Mark Gales, secretary, John Donner, program chair and Richard Wheeler. They worked hard to coordinate, plan and arrange for a successful seminar. Anetta Harrell, immediate past president, presented a session on Migraine headaches. Thanks Anetta for your presentation and your contribution to OSHP. Integris Baptist was well prepared to provide us an excellent lunch and a comfortable meeting place. Out of the 60 plus attendees, approximately 20 were pharmacy students from SWOSU. We appreciate their attendance and welcome them into the society. Also, OU and SWOSU participated in the Resident Showcase immediately following the meeting.

Now we can look forward to the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in New Orleans, December 7-11, 2003. For those of you who can attend, an Oklahoma reception will be held on Sunday evening at the Wyndam on Canal Street from 6 to 8 pm. Thanks to Yvette Morrison for making reception arrangements.

Finally, if you have ideas for a theme or topics for the OSHP Annual Meeting scheduled for April 22-23, 2004 in Oklahoma City please contact a member of the Program Committee. We appreciate your input. Feel free to contact me and I will pass the information along. Our goal is to have 100 attendees and I hope you are included in that number.

Thanks for your involvement and participation in OSHP.

OSHP Call for Nominations

Do you or anyone you know have an interest in serving OSHP? Nominations for the offices of OSHP President Elect (three year term), Eastern District Chairperson (two year term), and Secretary (two year term) are currently being accepted. Additionally, it is time to elect an Oklahoma representative to the ASHP House of Delegates (two year term). Oklahoma currently has three seats in the ASHP House of Delegates. Barbara Poe and Yvette Morrison will be finishing up their two year terms in 2004. Darin Smith is the current outgoing delegate. Please contact Edna Patatanian (patatae@swosu.edu, 405-844-3832), Nominations Committee Chairperson before November 30th, 2003.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUE DECEMBER 31, 2003

Online renewal is available at www.oshp.net. Contact Yvette Morrison (ymorrison@nrh-ok.com), Membership Committee Chairperson for information.

Quality In/Quality Out:

Pharmacists Strive to Improve Patient Care through OFMQ Initiative

A Breakthrough Series (BTS) Collaborative is a systematic approach to health care quality improvement in which organizations and providers test and measure practice innovations and then share their experiences in an effort to accelerate learning and widespread implementation of best practices. Beginning September 2003, the Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality (OFMQ) kicked off a 13 month Collaborative to individually test system changes aimed at improving acute myocardial infarction (AMI), heart failure (HF), and pneumonia care and to collectively share learning. The Collaborative consists of four components: pre-work activities, learning sessions, action periods, and the Outcomes Congress.

(Table 1)

TARGETED QUALITY INDICATORS

ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

- A. Prescribing of aspirin at arrival
- B. Prescribing of beta-blockers at arrival
- C. Thrombolytic therapy received within 30 minutes of hospital arrival
- D. Prescribing of aspirin at discharge
- E. Prescribing of beta-blockers at discharge
- F. Prescribing of ACE inhibitor at discharge
- G. Patients received smoking cessation advice/counseling

PNEUMONIA

- A. Receive initial dose of antibiotic within four hours of hospital arrival
- B. Antibiotic consistent with current recommendations
- C. Blood cultures collected prior to initial antibiotic administration
- D. Patients were screened for pneumococcal vaccine status and were administered the vaccine prior to discharge
- E. Patients were screened for influenza vaccine status and were administered the vaccination prior to discharge

HEART FAILURE

- A. Documentation of left ventricular function
- B. Prescribing of ACE inhibitor upon discharge
- C. Patients received smoking cessation advice/counseling

The purpose of the Collaborative is to improve the initial and discharge quality of care delivered to patients admitted to the hospital for treatment of AMI, HF and pneumonia. The improvements target evidence based care through system redesign. The goal is that 100 percent of "ideal patients" (patients with an indication for therapy and no evidence of contraindication) receive appropriate therapies.

For this project, hospitals will focus on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) national quality measures/core measures for AMI, HF and pneumonia (see Table 1). Focusing on these measures will assist the hospitals with their performance improvement activities.

Since many of the quality measure/core measures outlined above are directly related to appropriate medication utilization, the Health-System Pharmacist is an ideal candidate to take a leadership role in implementing strategies for improvement. Additionally, pharmacists are often familiar with the systems involved in the provision of care and roadblocks resulting in failure to meet the above goals. A few example strategies for pharmacists to lead improvement efforts include: 1) taking a leadership role in development of order sets and clinical pathways for AMI, HF and pneumonia; 2) development of inpatient pneumococcal and influenza vaccination programs; 3) development of standardized programs for the provision and documentation of smoking cessation; 4) and provision of reminder notes to physicians for use of ACE inhibitors, beta-blockers and aspirin upon discharge when appropriate. For more information on improvement strategies, contact the program participants or OFMQ (www.ofmq.org).

Look for Upcoming Newsletters in
February 2004, May 2004, August 2004

Update from the OSHP Legislative Committee

(submitted by Dorothy Gourley, Legislative Committee Member)

Many of the legislative issues involving our profession are of concern to all pharmacists regardless of practice site. These issues may be more effectively addressed at the state capital by having a hired lobbyist represent us. The OSHP Legislative Committee members are also OPHA members. Therefore, Wylie Williams and Barbara Poe were asked to serve as members of the OPHA task force to study and make recommendations about our lobbying activities on behalf of pharmacy.

The last meeting of the task force was held on October 30, 2003. Gary Kirk is chairman of this committee. Wylie Williams and Dorothy Gourley were present at the meeting. The two lobbyists, Clayton Taylor and Tommy Thomas, were asked to make presentations. Gary Kirk presented written material regarding possible areas to address in writing new contracts for lobbyists. In addition, we talked about the funds for their salaries. OPHA has always funded this activity. However, due to budget shortfalls, some scaling down of this activity is inevitable. Dorothy Gourley suggested that perhaps OSHP would be interested in assisting with financial support of a lobbyist.

The committee discussed the fact that since there are no pharmacist members in the state legislature, lobbying activities are more important than ever. When the representatives and senators make decisions that affect our profession, they may not have all the facts. That is why our interests must be brought to them either by lobbyists or the pharmacists in their districts. And, in reality, both of these pieces of information are needed. Therefore, it is important that all pharmacists support legislative activities by giving to the PAC, voting for a candidate, campaigning for a candidate, visiting with their representatives and senators, and becoming involved financially in this effort.

Upcoming 2003 District Meetings:

WESTERN DISTRICT

Date/Sponsor

Topic

Location

October 30

AstraZeneca

Gram Negative Nosocomial Infections

The Iquana Lounge

OKC, OK

November 13

Roche

Immunosuppressants

The Mantle

OKC, OK

February 26

Gilead

Anti-Retroviral Agents

TBA

EASTERN DISTRICT

Date/Sponsor

Topic

Location

November 13

Pfizer

Treatment of Depression

Green Onion Restaurant 15th St. and Yale Ave., Tulsa, OK

Please make certain to RSVP prior to attending as seating may be limited at some meetings. We strongly encourage you to bring potential members to meetings to introduce them to what OSHP has to offer. If you have suggestions for topics or speakers, please contact your respective district chairperson. (Western District Chair – Leslie Patatanian (patalk@integris-health.com), Eastern District Chair – Jenean Young (jyoung@sjmc.com)).

National Pharmacy Week

OSHP Board members visited various hospital settings in the OKC and Tulsa area in recognition of National Pharmacy Week. Visitations included St. John's, Hillcrest, St. Francis, St. Anthony, Southwest, Baptist, OKC VA, Presbyterian, Norman Regional and Reynold's Army Hospital. OSHP provided promotional materials obtained from ASHP to heighten awareness of the important role of the pharmacist.



OSHP Clinical Pearls

The intention of clinical pearls is to highlight information compiled in response to recent therapeutic questions or problems pertinent to health system pharmacy practice. If you or your institution has information, protocols, etc... and are willing to share please contact the OSHP Newsletter Committee.

The following information from the Oklahoma Poison Control Center (OKPCC) was presented by OSHP members Scott Schaeffer and Lee McGoodwin at a recent meeting in Chicago:

INTRODUCTION

Inhalant abuse is a pervasive problem, in part due to the low cost and easy accessibility of these products. Beginning in 2001, specialists at the OKPCC noted a significant increase in the number of exposures that involved abuse of methanol-containing carburetor cleaners. A previously presented case series described clinical improvement, with minimal intervention required for most patients who had abused this type of product.⁽¹⁾ These results did not match our experience with this type of exposure.

CASE SERIES

A search was designed to identify all cases involving inhalation abuse of methanol-containing automotive products reported to the OKPCC from 2001 to present. In each of these cases methanol-containing carburetor cleaner was identified as the abused substance. Therapeutic interventions and clinical effects judged related to the exposure were examined. The Oklahoma Poison Control Center follows treatment guidelines for methanol overdose as outlined by American Academy of Clinical Toxicology.⁽²⁾ Fifteen cases meeting criteria for inclusion were identified; three patients were admitted to the hospital on more than one occasion.



Figure 1
Methanol Containing Automotive Products

TABLE OF RESULTS

Clinical Data					Therapies		
Age	Sex	Acidosis	Visual Disturbance	Methanol Level	Hemodialysis	Ethanol	Fomepizole
32	F	Y (7.05)	*	Unknown	*		*
32	F	Y (unk)		Unknown		*	
47	M	N		43		*	
35	M	Y (7.00)	*	48		*	
44	F	N		54			*
30	F	N	*	125	*	*	
47	M	N	*	55		*	
45	M	Y (7.04)		29			
30	F	Y(6.87)		107	*		*
36	M	Y (unk)	*	Unknown			
42	M	Y (unk)	*	Unknown	*	*	
27	M	N		Unknown			
46	M	N	*	65	*		*
46	M	N		69	*		*
46	M	Y (7.16)	*	38			*

CONCLUSION

Early recognition and treatment of methanol poisoning is absolutely necessary in order to prevent long-term sequelae or death. Healthcare professionals need to be aware that intentional inhalation of methanol-containing carburetor cleaners may result in significant toxicity and that patients may require more than supportive care.

REFERENCES

1. Bebart V, Heard K, Delgado J, DeWitt C, Kostic M, Dart R. Lack of Toxicity or Significantly Elevated Formate Levels Following Inhalational Abuse of Methanol Containing Solvents. Norman American Congress of Clinical Toxicology Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, Sept. 9-13, 2003; McGuigan, MA, Ed.; Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, 2003, 82, 674-675.
2. Barceloux DG, Bond GR, Krenzelok EP, Cooper H, Vale JA. American Academy of Clinical Toxicology Practice Guidelines on the Treatment of Methanol Poisoning. Journal of Toxicology-Clinical Toxicology 40 (4): 415-446, 2002.



OSHP

Student and Residents Forum

Oklahoma Pharmacy Resident Update

(Please contact the OSHP Newsletter Committee to submit information on your residents)

Saint Francis Hospital

Eric Flaming is the Pharmacy Practice Resident for Saint Francis Hospital this year. He graduated from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. He has completed rotations in Adult Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, and Drug Information to this point. A new aspect of the residency this year is the Resident Education series, which is comprised of monthly presentations by the resident to the clinical specialists and staff pharmacists. The first session consists of a summary of pharmacologically related drugs, and the second session is a summary of guidelines pertinent to the first session. He also does a monthly case presentation and journal club presentation. He recently began research on a project to evaluate the incidence of inappropriate treatment of candiduria, and the effect of an intervention to decrease this. Other activities include rounding responsibilities, drug monograph preparation for P&T formulary consideration, and collaboration on a case report on vertebral osteomyelitis with *Propionibacterium* sp. with the ID physician, William Lewis, MD. Please stop by and visit with Eric at ASHP Midyear in New Orleans during the residency showcase.

Norman Regional Hospital

For the 2003-04 residency cycle, Norman Regional Hospital welcomes two pharmacy practice residents, Andrea Phillips and Brian Hughes. Both residents earned their Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy in 2003. Andrea is from Chouteau, OK and performed her pre-pharmacy course work at Rogers State University and Northeastern State University before arriving at OU. She plans to pursue a specialty residency in cardiology after completing her pharmacy practice residency. Brian is originally from Fort Smith, AR. He began his tenure at the University of Oklahoma by obtaining a Biochemistry degree before beginning his pharmacy career. He is also interested in specialty residency training, having interests thus far in pediatrics, infectious diseases, oncology and ambulatory care.

University of Oklahoma

Todd Marcy accepted to the ASHP Primary Care Residency of the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy and started work on July 1, 2003. He earned his Pharm.D. degree at the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy in May 2001 and completed an ASHP Pharmacy Practice Residency at the Claremore Indian Hospital in Claremore, Oklahoma. His residency project seeks to define the stability and safety of use of Lantus[®] insulin beyond the 28 day maximum provided by the manufacturer.

Stacey Zonder was accepted as this year's Oncology Resident. Stacey became interested in oncology during her student experience at the University of Oklahoma. After graduating, she completed a pharmacy practice residency at the Texas Tech University School of Pharmacy. The oncology residency offers many diverse educational opportunities. Clinical practice experiences are divided among the inpatient oncology ward, outpatient clinics, and the bone marrow transplant unit. Stacey has begun a residency research project that involves assessing treatment practices in the outpatient setting for cancer-related anemia and developing a pharmacist-run anemia clinic and also participates in other ongoing research initiatives. Her long-term career goal is to have a position that is both clinical and academic.

Student Chapter Officers

SWOSU School of Pharmacy

President: Kara Moore
President Elect: Wendi James
Secretary: Lisa Benham
Treasurer: Lorissa Patrick

OU College of Pharmacy

President: Gretchen Imel
Pres-Elect: Kenny Utz
Tulsa Liaison: Ben Baissa
Historian: Deborah Poland
Secretary: Misty Cronemiller
Treasurer: Deena Miles

ASHP Prevents Federal Government from Eliminating Pharmacy Residency Program Funding

(From the ASHP Government Affairs Division)

Last May, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced its plan to eliminate funding for pharmacy residencies. CMS – an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services – provides major funding for residency programs in nonfederal hospitals throughout the nation. The proposed cuts would have caused the cancellation of many residency programs and denied future generations of pharmacists the opportunity to complete residencies. ASHP immediately took action in a variety of ways to stop this proposal. As a result, CMS reversed its decision regarding first-year pharmacy residencies by restoring funding for these programs. ASHP remains focused on the next phase of the battle – specialized residency funding. CMS now intends to terminate funding for this important residency area. ASHP is committed to fight to keep these vital programs properly funded by working with Congress and CMS. For more information, contact the ASHP Government Affairs Division at gad@ashp.org.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WINNERS OF THE CLINICAL SKILLS COMPETITION!!!

Jan Granodos and Jennifer Bird (SWOSU)
Deborah Poland and Clay Denison (OU)

The winning team members for each participating university will receive a complimentary Midyear Meeting registration (a \$145-\$185 value) to compete at the national level competition in New Orleans, LA, December 6-7, 2003.

For more details, go to www.ashp.org, search words: clinical skills competition.