



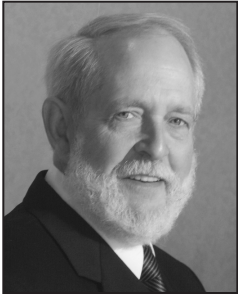
The Credential

The Mark of Excellence in Geriatric Care

Vol. 9, No. 1

July 2007

2007 MID-YEAR REPORT



Wayne L. Atkinson,
RPh, NHA, CGP
Chairman

I am very pleased to announce that as we enter our 2nd decade, CCGP is moving to a new and exciting stage with our Certified Geriatric Pharmacist (CGP) credential. Over these last few months, we have gained recognition among State Boards of Pharmacy, Managed Care Organizations, and Federal Health Care Agencies.

- Five states now recognize the credential through their approval of CE credits for the certification exam: **Ohio, Washington, Indiana, West Virginia, and California.** **Texas** has approved drafting of rules that will recognize the credential (for CE purposes). These rules will be presented for review at the Texas Board's August meeting and submitted for approval at their November meeting.
- **Caremark** now includes the CGP credential as one criterion for employment as a staff pharmacist.
- **BC/BS of Alabama** includes the credential as one criterion for selection to their provider network.
- **Express Scripts** has been quoted as saying that the CGP credential is important for identifying geriatric pharmacists for their P&T Committees.
- The **Veterans Administration** now allows, on a regional basis, for a step increase in salary for pharmacists with the CGP credential.
- The **Public Health Service** recently approved their 2008 promotion benchmarks that now include CGP certification as one criterion for promotion to a higher grade.
- **Health Care Provider Taxonomy Code Set Pharmacy Service Providers — Pharmacist** now includes the following specialty recognition:

Status: Active

Code: 1835G0303X

Type: Level III Area of Specialization

Geriatric: A pharmacist who is certified in geriatric pharmacy practice is designated as a "**Certified Geriatric Pharmacist.**" To become certified, candidates are expected to be knowledgeable about principles of geriatric pharmacotherapy and the provision of pharmaceutical care to the elderly.

Source: Washington Publishing Company, www.wpc-edi.com/codes/taxonomy

However, I have some sad news, too. Our **Executive Director, Lance Hoxie**, left his position on June 30th. Lance has become the familiar and friendly face of CCGP and been an integral part of the success of the CGP for nearly three years. We will certainly miss him. As the CGP credential continues to grow, we will remember Lance and the momentum that he helped to create.

For now, the good works of the Commission will continue—

- Routine functions will be fulfilled by **Tracy Scott, Certification Coordinator.** Tracy is completing her third year with the Commission and has a proven track record in the overall management and execution of these important functions. Tracy will continue to respond to your phone calls and emails. Her email address is tscott@ccgp.org and her direct phone number is 703-535-3036

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49 PHARMACISTS ACHIEVE CGP CERTIFICATION

Forty-nine pharmacists passed the Certification Examination in Geriatric Pharmacy during the January-May 2007 testing period. Of these 49, 11 were recertification candidates.

Wayne L. Atkinson, RPh, CGP, Chairman of the CCGP Board of Commissioners said: "This class represents the continuing growth in Certified Geriatric Pharmacists that we have experienced since the beginning of the certification program. We believe that with the advent of the new Medicare Part D and medication therapy management services programs for Medicare beneficiaries, we will continue to enjoy substantially increasing numbers of senior care pharmacists who wish to distinguish themselves as uniquely qualified to provide geriatric pharmacy services."

The 150-item multiple-choice CCGP exam is designed to assess candidates' knowledge in three areas of practice: patient-specific activities (35%), disease-specific activities (53%), and population-specific activities (12%). The exam was developed by a 12-member committee of geriatric pharmacy practitioners and educators under the guidance of CCGP testing contractor Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP), a nationally prominent testing company based in Olathe, Kansas.

"CCGP congratulates all those who passed the test," said former CCGP Executive Director Lance Hoxie. "These professionals possess a level of training, experience, knowledge, and skills that are deemed essential to providing comprehensive pharmaceutical care to the nation's senior population. They have met a rigorous national standard and they and their employers can be justifiably proud of this accomplishment."

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Antonia Alafiris*	Jason A. Hackett	Rita L. Lyster	Joy B. Plein*	Sheilagh A. Stroud
Melissa E. Angell	Trudy Holzmann	May C. Mak	Rosemary Polczer	Raidah Subeh
Lynne P. Antonio Lonie*	John K. Huang	Wesley E. Matthias	Mary Ellen I. Rennie	Lisa M. Trickett*
Donald E. Bastian	Katherine A. James Fairbairn	Janin Monterrey	Carolyn E. Richardson	Peter Wacko
Gregory L. Beesley*	Sameer Kapadia	Khanh T. Nguyen	Dennita A. Rittenback*	Robert L. Wiggins
Kaaren Carroll Caplan	James C. Kloster	Julia K. Nguyen	Sabrina N. Russ	Elba C. Wikes*
Barbara A. DeAngelis	Steven R. Knott*	Marilyn A. Okopny	Jeffrey T. Sherer*	Jilene M. Winther
David P. Elliott	Michelle A. Lachance	Nancy Park	Tracey L. Simpson	Robert R. Wright*
Thomas B. Gregory	Ward A. Lenart*	Diane G. Petersen	Karen Smith	Steven G. Zahn
Frances E. Grunwald	Freda M. Leung	Susan L. Pfoertner	Brian R. Steele	* <i>recertification candidates</i>

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- ASCP, under the direction of **Executive Director & CEO and CCGP Commissioner John Feather**, PhD, CAE, will provide administrative and management support for the Commission.
- Examination development, maintenance, and administration will remain in conjunction with our Examination Development Committee and Psychometric Advisors with Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc., under the direction of the CCGP Board of Commissioners.

To learn more about this standard for geriatric pharmacy practice, visit www.ccgp.org. The Web site is also a source for applications, test sites and dates, and the Candidate Guide that contains examination policies and procedures. Or, contact Tracy Scott, CCGP's Certification Coordinator, at tscott@ccgp.org or 703-535-3036,

Let us all join in a toast to the continued success of CCGP!

YOU'VE PASSED THE EXAM – HERE'S HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR CERTIFICATION

CCGP requires all Certified Geriatric Pharmacists to recertify every five years. Recertification assures the public and the profession that CCGP-certified pharmacists undergo periodic evaluation to verify that their knowledge and skills are maintained at a level comparable to newly Certified Geriatric Pharmacists.

To recertify, an individual must be licensed to practice pharmacy and successfully complete one of two methods:

1. Achieve a passing score on the multiple-choice, 150-question CCGP Certification Examination, or
2. Earn 75 continuing education hours over five years through the Professional Development Program for CGP Recertification. CCGP has designated the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) as the exclusive provider of the Professional Development Program for CGP Recertification.



The Professional Development Program requires attendance of two live workshops — Clinical Update for the Senior Care Pharmacist and Geriatric Assessment for the Senior Care Pharmacist – during the certification period. These workshops are held in conjunction with ASCP's national meetings (see Calendar, page 4). The remaining hours may be earned by completing Stages I through III of the online Professional Development Program delivered through www.GeriatricPharmacyReview.com. FAQ's about the Professional Development Program for CGP Recertification are located at www.ccgp.org/pharmacist/recertification/faqs.htm.

NOMINATIONS FOR EXCELLENCE IN GERIATRIC PHARMACY AWARD DUE AUGUST 1

Nominate a deserving colleague today for the CCGP/AstraZeneca Excellence in Geriatric Pharmacy Award! This award recognizes the Certified Geriatric Pharmacist who fosters the principles of good pharmacy practice, demonstrates excellence in geriatric patient care, and promotes the value and rigorous standards established by CCGP. This award, presented annually at Senior Care Pharmacy – ASCP's Annual Meeting and Exhibition, is supported by a grant from AstraZeneca. Previous award recipients are:

Joseph Gruber, RPh, CGP, FASCP
Sandra Brownstein, PharmD, CGP, FASCP
Steve Aldridge, RPh, MAd, CGP, FASCP
Mark A. Stratton, PharmD, CGP, BCPS, FASHP
Monica L. Mathys, PharmD, CGP
Greg D'Amour, RPh, PharmD, PhC, CGP, FASCP

The deadline for nominations is August 1, 2007.

To obtain nomination materials, contact Tracy Scott, tscott@ccgp.org or 703-535-3036.

CCGP COMMISSIONER NOMINATIONS DUE AUGUST 1

The Commission for Geriatric Pharmacy (CCGP) is seeking nominations of Certified Geriatric Pharmacists for election to two positions on the CCGP Board of Commissioners. Newly elected Commissioners will serve a three-year term that commences December 1, 2007.

The Call for Nominations and Role Description for a CCGP Commissioner were mailed to all CGPs in early July. If you or someone you know is a Certified Geriatric Pharmacist with a minimum of five years experience in senior care or consultant pharmacy practice and is willing to provide leadership, time and energy to the Commission, forward a nomination. Send the completed nomination form, a curriculum vitae, and a letter of intent that describes how the candidate has met the eligibility criteria outlined in the Call for Nominations to Tracy Scott, Certification Coordinator Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy, 1321 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. **All nominations must be received by August 1, 2007.**

CALLING ALL CANDIDATES — SCHEDULE YOUR CCGP EXAMINATION NOW!

Whether you prefer the paper and pencil examination format or computer-based testing, plan now to take the CCGP Certification examination in 2007. Computer-based testing is available in the United States, Australia, Canada, and other international locations. To find a location convenient for you, visit www.ccp.org/pharmacist/certification/location.htm

The next *computer-based testing* window is July/August. **The registration deadline is July 31, 2007.** The final 2007 computer-based testing window is October/November with a **registration deadline of October 30, 2007.**

The next *paper and pencil* CCGP Certification examination will be offered November 14, 2007, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in conjunction with Senior Care Pharmacy '07 – ASCP's 38th Annual Meeting and Exhibition. **The registration deadline for this exam is October 14, 2007.**

To receive a Candidate Handbook containing examination policies and procedures, application materials, and test preparation tips, contact Tracy Scott, Certification Coordinator, at 703-535-3036, or email tscott@ccgp.org. Alternatively, visit www.ccp.org for certification information and registration.

FEEDBACK NEEDED BY NOVEMBER 1 ON CCGP JOB ANALYSIS SURVEY

In order to keep the CCGP Certification Examination relevant to current practice, the content map of the exam is continually reviewed.

As part of this process, every five years the Commission conducts a Job Analysis Survey of CGPs to ensure that the certification examination is a valid, accurate, and up-to-date measurement of the job that CGPs do today.

It is now time to begin the process. CGPs will receive the Job Analysis Survey electronically in late September from Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc. (AMP). Watch for it! **Please complete the survey and return it to AMP by November 1, 2007.**

Thank you in advance for your participation in this essential project.

SHARE THE VALUE OF THE CGP

Help us increase the awareness of the value of CGP certification. We are currently collecting a series of articles and testimonials on how the CGP credential benefits pharmacists and their patients. Please share your experiences. Email your brief story to Tracy Scott at tscott@ccgp.org.

JOIN THE CGP LIST SERVER

Join your peers on the CGP list server. Share your pharmacy knowledge, concerns, and ask questions. Only Certified Geriatric Pharmacists may participate!

To join, sign-up at: www.ccp.org/pharmacist/listserve.htm

CALENDAR

Computer-based Examination

July/August — Register by: July 31, 2007

October/November — Register by: October 30, 2007

To find a testing location near you, go to www.ccp.org/pharmacist/certification/location.htm

Paper and Pencil Examination

*November 14 — Register by: October 14, 2007

Register for recertification at www.ccp.org

Recertification Live Programs

*November 12-13 — *Geriatric Assessment for the Senior Care Pharmacist*

Attendance limited to 40.

*November 18 — *Clinical Update for the Geriatric Pharmacist*

Attendance limited to 60.

*Held in conjunction with Senior Care Pharmacy '07 – ASCP's 38th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, November 14-17, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Register today to insure your spot at the program at www.ascp.com/education/meetings/2007/annual/index.cfm. Registration opens July 23.