



The Credential

The Mark of Excellence in Geriatric Care

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To contact the commissioners send an email message to info@ccgp.org

CCGP ELECTS NEW COMMISSIONERS

At the November 2007 annual meeting, the Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy announced the election of Lisa Hettich, PharmD, CGP, FASCP, and Jag Khatter, PharmD, CGP, CDE, to the Board of Commissioners. Retiring from the board are: Dana Saffel, PharmD, DPh, CGP, FASCP, and Tom Snader, PharmD, CGP, FASCP.



Lisa Hettich, PharmD, a Certified Geriatric Pharmacist with 10 years of consultant pharmacist experience, is the medication therapy management (MTM) clinical interventions manager for WellPoint NextRx. She is responsible for the clinical development and implementation of MTM programs for Medicare Part D. Prior to joining WellPoint NextRx, she was the president of a medication risk management company catering to community-based seniors as well as clinical director for a local hospital. Hettich is an active member of several organizations and continues to share her learning experiences as a preceptor and mentor for various universities.



Jag Khatter is the vice president of clinical services at SeniorMed, a Walgreens company, which specializes in providing pharmacy services to hundreds of assisted living and independent living communities. He is actively involved in pharmacy operations with a keen focus on assisted living, skilled nursing facilities, and hospice care. Khatter has been active on the Assisted Living Task Force of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists for the past three years.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

The CCGP Board of Commissioners met in Philadelphia in November 2007. At that time, the Commissioners approved the 2008 budget and planned strategies for increasing awareness of the CGP credential with consumers, with health care professionals, and with pharmacists.

Outcomes of this meeting include:

- A subcommittee is working to engage key contacts in **managed care** pharmacy to promote the need to recognize pharmacists with the CGP credential as the pharmacists with the specialized knowledge to provide medication recommendations for seniors with complex chronic medical conditions. This group will meet in April at the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacists (AMCP) meeting. If you plan to be at the AMCP meeting and would like to participate in this discussion, contact ASCP Executive Director John Feather (jfeather@ascp.com).
- A subcommittee is working to promote the CGP credential to **student pharmacists** in schools of pharmacy in the US and Canada. Jane Huff, Vice-Chair of the Board of Commissioners, participated in roundtable discussions with student pharmacists at the Student Networking Social at the ASCP annual meeting in November. In January, CCGP surveyed the 4000+ student pharmacist members of ASCP to assess their interest and understanding of the CGP credential. Next steps will include making presentations at schools of pharmacy, marketing regularly to the ASCP student pharmacist membership, exhibiting at national and regional meetings to increase awareness, and investigating specific methods to prepare student pharmacists to take the exam.
- CCGP leadership and staff will continue to represent the Commission at meetings of other organizations.
 - CCGP Chair Wayne Atkinson and Immediate Past Chair William Simonson, along with David Smith, presented "Risk Management: The Role of Communication and the Implications of Certification" on March 7, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the American Medical Directors Association Meeting (AMDA) in Salt Lake City, Utah.
 - CCGP staff will exhibit at the American Pharmacists Association meeting at booth #1036 in San Diego, March 14-17.
 - CCGP leadership and staff will attend the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacists meeting in San Francisco, April 16-19.
 - CCGP leadership and staff will exhibit at *Geriatrics '08, ASCP's 30th Midyear Conference and Exhibition* in Las Vegas, May 14-16.

SEE YOUR STORY IN PRINT!

How has your CGP credential advanced your practice? Share your success with colleagues by submitting a short 250-500 word essay for publication in *The Credential*. Email to info@ccgp.org.

**DON'T MISS
OUT!**

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**GERIATRICS '08
ASCP's 30TH
MIDYEAR
CONFERENCE
AND EXHIBITION**

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**LAS VEGAS
MAY 14-16**

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**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
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WWW.ASCP.COM**

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MORE THAN 100 PARTICIPATE IN CCGP ANNUAL MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA

On Wednesday, November 14, more than 100 Certified Geriatric Pharmacists gathered for the 10th Annual Meeting of the Commission. Chair Atkinson discussed the great strides that CCGP has made over the past 10 years. CCGP Immediate Past Chair William Simonson presented a poster, “Demographic Characteristics of the Certified Geriatric Pharmacist Population.” Using information collected as of June 1, 2007, Simonson and colleagues reported that 46% of CGPs practice in the long-term care setting, 16% practice in the hospital setting, and 7% practice in the community setting. The trend of the certification cohort by year is increasing, starting with 210 pharmacists sitting for the exam in 1998 through to the first six months of 2007 by which time 1339 pharmacists had taken the CGP exam. In summary, the poster concludes that as the elderly population continues to grow and as new medications for conditions of aging are developed, geriatric pharmacy is a specialty practice area that will become increasingly important.



Irving Stackpole (left) and CCGP Chair Wayne Atkinson (right)

Using the information provided in the demographics poster, keynote speaker Irving Stackpole, President of Stackpole and Associates, Inc. challenged the audience to “absolutely reverse the proportion of where CGPs are practicing.” In his presentation, “Leveraging the Assets of a CGP,” Stackpole emphasized that “the market, the aging consumer, and their adult children, are desperately in need of the expertise of a CGP.” As a Certified Geriatric Pharmacist, you have an “influence of authority” in the market. Stackpole affirmed to the audience that CGPs possess unique knowledge about medications and can offer the adult daughter of a senior peace of mind regarding her mother’s medication management. A copy of Stackpole’s presentation is on the CGP website. Visit www.cgp.org and click on CCGP Annual Meeting and Reception.

TERRENCE O’SHEA RECEIVES 2007 CCGP/ASTRAZENECA EXCELLENCE IN GERIATRIC PHARMACY PRACTICE AWARD



CCGP Chair Wayne Atkinson (left) with Terry O’Shea (right)

The CCGP/AstraZeneca Excellence in Geriatric Pharmacy Practice 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.

Terrence O’Shea is the recipient of the 2007 award.

Currently, O’Shea is Senior Clinical Director of Consultant Performance for Omnicare. During his tenure in the profession of pharmacy, O’Shea’s publication resume ranges from venues such as *The Consultant Pharmacist*, where he published practice related articles, to a chapter in the Merck Manual: “Basics of Geriatric Care: Pharmacy,” to participation in a series of evidence based disease management articles in JAMDA. These references deal directly with patient care and raising the bar toward excellence in geriatric pharmaceutical care.

In 2002, O’Shea became a Certified Geriatric Pharmacist. He has held various leadership roles with the Commission serving on the Board of Commissioners as Chair, Vice-Chair, and as a member of the Exam Development Committee. He led the development of the Clinical Update for the Geriatric Pharmacist program for the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.

His contribution to the profession, his devotion to quality senior care and his long-time dedication to the CCGP has certainly earned him this award, and we are proud and honored to present him with this award. Along with his award, CCGP and AstraZeneca made a \$2500 donation to the University of Cincinnati, College of Pharmacy in his name.

ASCP ANNOUNCES MTM PROVIDER PARTNERS

The need for skilled clinicians to deliver medication therapy management (MTM) services has increased dramatically since the coverage of MTM services under Medicare Part D, especially for patients residing outside of nursing facilities.

To meet this need, the Society established ASCP's MTM Provider Partners program with medication therapy management provider companies to expand the reach of ASCP member consultant and senior care pharmacists into community-based settings, bringing much needed clinical expertise to medically complex patients wherever they reside.

ASCP's MTM Provider Partners are Outcomes Pharmaceutical Health Care® and PharmMD Solutions. Both companies specialize in delivering MTM services to patients. Each company has its requirements for

participation. PharmMD Solutions recognizes the CGP credential as one way to be recognized in their network.

For details, contact:

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Registration Deadlines to take the CGP Exam

- Register by April 13, 2008 to take the exam by May 31, 2008
- Register by July 31, 2008 to take the exam by August 31, 2008
- Register by October 19, 2008 to take the exam by November 30, 2008
- A paper-based exam will be offered on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada and on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 in New Orleans, Louisiana

CGP-PDP Workshop Information for 2008

Clinical Update for the Geriatric Pharmacist Workshop

- April 24, 2008, Foxwoods, Connecticut, in conjunction with Connecticut ASCP Senior Symposium
- May 13, 2008, Las Vegas, Nevada, in conjunction with Geriatrics '08, ASCP's 30th Midyear Conference and Exhibition
- July 25, 2008, Oakbrook, Illinois, in conjunction with the Midwest Regional Conference for Consultant Pharmacists (Registration opens on or about May 1, 2008)
- November 18, 2008 in conjunction with Senior Care Pharmacy '08, ASCP's 39th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, New Orleans, Louisiana (registration opens on or about July 7, 2008)

Geriatric Assessment for the Senior Care Pharmacist Workshop

- May 12-13, 2008, Las Vegas, Nevada, in conjunction with Geriatrics '08, ASCP's 30th Midyear Conference and Exhibition
- November 17-18, 2008 in conjunction with Senior Care Pharmacy '08, ASCP's 39th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, New Orleans, Louisiana (registration opens on or about July 7, 2008)

Class sizes are limited, register today! For more information, visit www.ascp.com/education or call (703) 739-1300 ext. 119 or 130

To take the required online courses, visit geriatricpharmacyreview.com