



U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee

Department of Health and Human Services

Minutes of Meeting
3 May 2007
Surgeon Generals Conference Room
Parklawn Building
1300-1600

Members Present:

In Rockville:

RADM Robert Pittman (CPO), IHS-Rockville, MD
CDR Beth Fabian Fritsch, FDA-Rockville, MD
CDR Jacqueline Thomas, OCCO-Rockville, MD
LCDR Richard Glabach, OCCFM-Rockville, MD

LCDR Tara Turner (Ex-Officio Executive Secretary), CMS- Baltimore, MD

Via Telephone:

CAPT James Bresette, IHS-Rockville, MD
CAPT Robert McClelland, IHS-Elko, NV
CDR Christopher Allen, CDC-Atlanta, GA
CDR Tamara Close, IHS-Whiteriver, AZ
CDR Richard DeCederfelt, NIH-Bethesda, MD
CDR Samuel Foster, IHS-White Earth, MN
CDR Patricia Garvey, FDA-Silver Spring, MD
CDR Mary Kremzner, FDA-Rockville, MD
CDR Michael Shiber, BOP-Cumberland, MD
CDR Nita Sood (Chair), HRSA- Rockville, MD
CDR Matthew Tarosky, FDA-Rockville, MD
CDR Kimberly Zietlow, IHS-Red Lake, MN

LCDR Brian Campbell (Ex-Officio JOAG),
IHS-Whiteriver, AZ
LCDR Violette Ganoë (Vice-Chair), BOP-Bradford,
PA
LCDR Jeff Mouakket, HRSA-Dallas, TX
LCDR Jeffrey Newman, BOP-Springfield, MO
LCDR Peter Vermilyea, IHS-Winslow, AZ

Members Absent:

CDR Michael Long (Ex-Officio Chair) BOP-
Butner, NC
LCDR Kristina Joyce-Pittman (Ex-Officio JOAG),
FDA-Philadelphia, PA

LT Stacey Smith (Ex-Officio JOAG),
IHS-Fort Washakie, WY

Guests*:

CAPT Michael Forman, IHS-Aberdeen, SD
CAPT Lillie Golson, FDA-Rockville, MD
CAPT Walter Holt, CDC-Atlanta, GA
CAPT Jim Imholte, OASPR-Kansas City, MO
CAPT Lia Prella, CMS-Baltimore, MD
CAPT Robert Taylor, HRSA-Rockville, MD
CAPT Robert Young, IHS-Sitka, AK

CDR Louis Flowers, FDA-Rockville, MD
CDR Scott Giberson, IHS-Rockville, MD
CDR Dana Hall, OS-Kansas City, MO
CDR Alice Knoblen, FDA-Rockville, MD
CDR Judy Rose, IHS-Anchorage, AK
CDR Edward Yale, IHS-Gallup, NM
LCDR David Araojo, FDA-Silver Spring, MD

LCDR Vicky Borders-Hemphill, FDA-Silver Spring, MD
LCDR Renu Chhabra, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR James Czarzasty, OASPR-Washington, DC
LCDR Sheryl Gunther, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR Paula Laplant, FDA-Swanton, VT
LCDR Larry Lim, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR Jeffrey Mallette, BOP-Pensacola, FL
LCDR Diem-Kieu Ngo, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR Keith Olin, FDA-Rockville, MD

LCDR Devvrat Patel, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR Patrick Romero, USCG-Clearwater, FL
LCDR Martin Shimer, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR Emily Thakur, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR Chi-Ann Wu, FDA-Rockville, MD
LCDR Christine Yu, INS-El Centro, CA
LT Liatte Krueger, BOP-Rochester, MN
LT Christina Thompson, FDA-Rockville, MD
LT Jeffrey Vang, IHS-Mount Pleasant, MI

*Guests attending the meeting via call in are requested to email their rank, name, agency, and location information to the PharmPAC secretary at tara.turner@cms.hhs.gov.

Call to Order: CDR Nita Sood ((NSood@HRSA.GOV))

CDR Sood called the May 2007 Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee (PharmPAC) meeting to order.

Acceptance of April 07 PharmPAC Meeting Minutes: CDR Nita Sood ((NSood@HRSA.GOV))

Minutes from the April 5, 2007 PharmPAC meeting were accepted as amended.

CPO Comments: RADM Robert Pittman

◆ **IHS Southwest Regional Pharmacist Conference**

- Attended last week in Scottsdale, AZ
- Met with approximately 200 IHS pharmacists (including commissioned corps, civil service, and tribal pharmacists), pharmacy technicians, and retired pharmacists
- Two awards were presented as follows:
 - IHS Junior Pharmacist of the Year – LCDR Allison Painter, Shiprock, NM
 - IHS Senior Pharmacist of the Year – CAPT Daniel Diggins, Jr., Phoenix, AZ

◆ **Transformation**

- ORC-Macro group met this morning to discuss recruitment issues
- RADM Pittman distributed copies of the new recruitment brochures
- PHS website (www.usphs.gov) is under construction
- Advertising started the first week of April
- The 800# is receiving approximately 134 calls per day
- PACs have been asked to look at how they can change the look and feel of their websites to correspond to the new PHS website; ORC-Macro has developed a template that all categories will be expected to use

◆ **Promotions**

- Pharmacy category promotion board met in early April; prepared rank order list
- Promotion rates are not known at this time; expected to be released in June
- Regular Corps has a ceiling of 2800 officers, which is fast approaching (approximately 300 slots remain); this may affect success rates for permanent promotions and assimilations

◆ **Readiness**

- Assessment was done at the end of April
- Multiple e-mails were sent urging officers to check their status on the OFRD website and to contact OFRD if they believe an error was made

- If not basic ready, officers will be dropped from the promotion list and will be referred to a retention board for review
- ◆ **COA Conference**
 - ASH signed a memo indicating that 250 officers can be paid for by HHS operating divisions to attend the conference
 - Each agency has been assigned a certain number of officers that it can support financially
 - Does not affect officers who want to attend on their own or officers who are granted leave to attend
- ◆ **Awards**
 - RADM Pittman presented Special Assignment Service Awards to the following officers for their participation in activities related to the PharmPAC:
 - CDR Nita Sood (via telephone)
 - CDR Sam Foster (via telephone)
 - LCDR Renu Chhabra

Section Lead Comments:

Communication → CDR Samuel Foster (Samuel.Foster@ihs.gov) / LCDR Richard Glabach (Richard.Glabach@hhs.gov)

- ◆ **PLANT Profiles→CDR Foster**
 - Plan to release a new profile every 2 months
 - Next profile is LCDR Norris
- ◆ **CAD Welcome Packet→CDR Foster**
 - LCDR Keith Olin headed up this project and worked with LCDR Diem Ngo, LT Christina Thompson, LCDR Christopher Jones, LCDR Jialynn Wang, and LT Liatte Krueger
 - Used the physician PAC CAD packet as a template
 - 14 page document; quite comprehensive
 - Will be distributed to new CADs as we get the list of names and will also be posted on the website
 - There was some discussion regarding the following issues:
 - Suggestion to utilize information from the JOAG welcome document
 - Suggestion to utilize information from the commissioned officers handbook, if it is still available (may be outdated)
 - Recommendation to include information on all PHS and pharmacist listservs
 - Question as to whether this document should be produced by OCCO since the information represents the entire Corps
 - Suggestion to send to new officers within 30 days of their CAD
 - Email comments to CDR Foster or LCDR Olin
- ◆ **Manpower Project→LCDR Glabach**
 - HRSA has been requested to prepare a report regarding the pharmacy workforce
- ◆ **PharmPAC Prototype Website→LCDR Glabach**
 - PACs are collectively agreeing upon a standardized template
 - Will download information into that template
 - Asked section leads to look at the site to help the workgroup define where the information should go
 - Need preliminary feedback by May 11
 - Six categories of information:
 - Considering the Commissioned Corps

- Career Development
- Corps Activities
- Promotion
- Contacts
- PharmPAC

Administration → CDR Patricia Garvey (patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov) / CDR Kimberly Zietlow (kimberly.zietlow@ihs.gov)

- ◆ **Membership Nominations** → CDR Garvey
 - Sent call for nominations for 2007-2010 term; due date for nominations is June 1; so far have received three nominations for IHS; current openings are as follows:
 - 1 CMS
 - 2 HRSA
 - 2 IHS

- ◆ **Liaison Reports** → CAPT Holt (walter.holtjr@cdc.hhs.gov)
 - May 23 is the deadline for applications for a National Provider Identifier (NPI)
 - Will forward all future liaison announcements to the communication group for distribution via the listserv

- ◆ **History Project** → LT Vang
 - Had first meeting March 16 and second meeting April 27
 - Pharmacy history in the U.S. – did not differentiate between regular pharmacy and PHS pharmacy
 - Information needed:
 - History of CCRF; how many natural events and how many pharmacists participated?
 - First female pharmacist and when commissioned?
 - Grant offered for this project – does the grant have any restrictions?
 - PHS historian wants a focus on PHS pharmacy history

- ◆ **Pharmacy Category Coin** → CDR Garvey
 - Please make checks payable to COF and please use the order form

Career Development → CDR Michael Shiber (MJShiber@bop.gov)

- ◆ **COA** → CDR Shiber
 - Registration for APHA Immunization Training is open until May 8 – free registration still available
 - CDR Laura Pincock will offer a course on the smallpox vaccine, for officers who have already taken the APhA immunization training
 - Career counseling will be offered by OCCO

- ◆ **Non-APhA/OFRD Immunization Training Work Group** → CDR Shiber
 - Currently OFRD only accepts the APhA training certification
 - Working to prepare a position paper requesting recognition of other training programs; this paper will be submitted to OFRD

- ◆ **CE Template** → LCDR Diem Ngo
 - Helpful to use if you don't already have a template
 - Will add to website

- ◆ **Mentoring Program** → CAPT Lillie Golson

- Has been one year since we began this new initiative
- Developed a survey for those matched May through September 2006
- Results are generally positive
- CAPT Golson will set up a conference call with RADM Pittman, CDR Sood, and CDR Shiber to discuss the survey results and make recommendations back to the PAC

◆ **Publishing Workgroup → CDR Louis Flowers**

- Two part proposal
- Part 1 – CDR Flowers will serve as a mentor to pharmacists who wish to publish; he has recently been appointed to the JAPhA editorial board
- Part 2 – Prepare a manuscript for publishing; would like to update the article written by Paavola, Dermanoski, and Pittman titled “Pharmaceutical services in the United States Public Health Service” published in 1997 in the American Journal of Health System Pharmacy; need help with the present and future of PHS; need ideas and write-ups of experiences in HHS agencies, administrative or clerical; transformation; co-authors will be selected based on contributions to the project
- CDR Sood encouraged our civil service pharmacists to work on this project
- Outside activity form may be required; check with your ethics officer
- If interested contact Louis.Flowers@fda.hhs.gov

Recruitment → CAPT James Bresette (james.bresette@ihs.gov) / CDR Beth Fabian Fritsch (beth.fritsch@fda.hhs.gov)

◆ **Student Programs → CDR Mary Kremzner**

- Encouraging pharmacists to participate in the APhA Career Survey; ends April 30
- Sent message to pharmacy students giving example of last year’s COSTEP experience (FDA student)
- List of students not selected for the COSTEP program; planning contact for those student applicants

◆ **University Point of Contact (UPOC) → LCDR Peter Vermilyea**

- Listserv e-mail was sent looking for presenters for student awards
- CAD document – giving it a new face to make it look like UPOC newsletter; tailoring document more for recruitment purposes to hand out at conventions to perspective applicants

◆ **Associate Recruiter Program → LCDR Violette Ganoe**

- March 31 was the deadline for annual activities and training requirements; pharmacy category lost 50% of AR’s
- New list posted on PAC website
- If your name isn’t there and you think it is in error, contact LCDR Christine Bina
- If your name falls off, you will have to re-apply to the program
- Sent thank-you letters to all officers who volunteered at the APhA booth in Atlanta

JOAG Report → LCDR Brian Campbell (brian.campbell@ihs.gov)

- ◆ No report

Agency Reports

- ◆ Ex-Minimus Agencies – CDR Chris Allen provided a report from CDC

- CDC.gov homepage has been revised; consolidated topic areas into 8 categories; new search engine; more comprehensive A-Z list of topics; CDC for you – customized content based on user profiles
- H5N1 update
 - New outbreaks among poultry; control measures have been instituted
 - Cases among humans – contact with sick or dead poultry
- Emergency response exercises
 - Pandemic flu exercise – 23 confirmed cases with 4 confirmed deaths
 - Hurricane tabletop exercise – simulated category 5 hurricane to hit gulf coast
- ◆ Indian Health Service (IHS)→CDR Bradley Bishop
 - No report
- ◆ National Institutes of Health (NIH) – CDR Sood for CDR Richard DeCederfelt
 - Continue to work on development of inpatient pharmacy information system to interface with existing computerized physician order entry system; estimated completion date is end of 2007
 - Construction of new facility to house all non-dispensing functions; estimated completion date is Summer 2008
 - Pharmacotherapy Frontiers forum was a success, approximately 325 pharmacists attended
 - Search committee has been formed to find a new pharmacy chief
- ◆ DHS – LCDR Patrick Romero (USCG)
 - There is a pharmacist vacancy in Alameda,CA; fills approximately 200 prescriptions per day; if interested contact CAPT Mary Fong or LCDR Romero
- ◆ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – LCDR Jeff Mouakket
 - There are 2 openings for PAC membership for 2007-2010 term
 - Division of Immigration Health Services has openings all over the country
- ◆ Bureau of Prisons (BOP) – CAPT Chris Bina for LCDR Jeffrey Newman
 - Nothing new to report
- ◆ Food and Drug Administration (FDA) –CDR Matthew Tarosky
 - FDA approved a new vaccine for H5N1; will not be available commercially
 - Message sent from ORA for 100 positions; entry level positions; unclear if appropriate for senior officers or junior officers looking for a senior billet; these are CSO positions for field inspectors
 - Dangers of buying prescription drugs over the internet
 - FDA working with the National Library of Medicine to maintain a repository of drug labeling (NLM webpage – daily med)
 - Patient Safety News – available from FDA website
- ◆ Office of the Secretary (OS) – CDR Jacqueline Thomas
 - Nothing new to report

2007 COA Category Day Planning → LCDR Martin Shimer (martin.shimerii@fda.hhs.gov) /LCDR Connie Jung (connie.jung@fda.hhs.gov)

- ◆ No department restrictions on officers presenting at the conference if they are not funded by their agency
- ◆ Early bird deadline has been extended to May 7
- ◆ Conference hotel rate available until May 15

- ◆ Room locator service has been extended to May 25
- ◆ Pharmacy category presentations begin 15 minutes earlier than other categories; tight timeline, especially in the morning
- ◆ Agenda finalized; includes clinical issues, transformation, administration of smallpox vaccine, CMS update, including NPI
- ◆ Total of 27.5 credits of CE available (doesn't include the 20 credits for APhA immunization training)
- ◆ No registration numbers have been provided yet

PAC Chair Report→ CDR Sood (NSood@HRSA.GOV)

CDR Sood provided a report of the PAC's accomplishments for the second quarter of the year as follows:

- Administration
 - Finished selection of the student awards
 - Designed new pharmacy category challenge coin
- Communication
 - Recording of PAC meetings
 - New CAD welcome package
 - PAC website redesign to make it easier to navigate
 - Deployment forms and MTM forms are ready for submission to OFRD and ASPR for approval
 - Manpower project –in followup to March meeting presentation, the PharmPAC is looking to collaborate on a project regarding federal pharmacist manpower
- Career Development
 - APhA Immunization Training
 - Mentoring Program
 - Position paper for OFRD to recognize non-APhA immunization training
 - Assimilation information – posted on PAC website; Powerpoint presentation is under development
 - PY 2008 benchmarks will be released soon; waiting for OCCO to approve; will then develop a new CV template
- Recruitment
 - New AR lead selected – CAPT Mike Forman
 - UPOC newsletter launched
 - Officers scheduled to present “Excellence in Pharmacy Practice Awards” to students at several pharmacy schools
- Agency Reports – very informative
- Thanks to all pharmacy officers who are participating in transformation workgroups

Old/New Business:

- ◆ LCDR Christine Yu suggested that information regarding the pharmacist listserv be included in the new CAD welcome packet.
- ◆ CDR Nita Sood reminded the PAC that the June and July meetings have been changed to June 14 and July 12; will also send a reminder over the listserv
- ◆ CDR Rick Decederfelt asked a question regarding the COA conference: If the agency is paying an officer's registration but not the travel or administrative leave, does that officer count toward the ceiling? The answer is yes.

The meeting was adjourned @ 3:46pm.
