

NASCSA NEWS

August 24,
2011

Registration Now Open for NASCSA's Annual Conference Oct. 18-21

Registration is now open for the 27th Annual Conference of the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities to take place at the [Eastland Parkland Hotel](#) in Portland, Maine October 18-21, 2011. This year's conference is the first time NASCSA has met in New England and continues the trend of increasingly informative and well-attended meetings. The Eastland Park Hotel is located in downtown Portland and is within easy walking distance to many of the finest restaurants in the city as well as shopping and historic sites.

[2011 Conference](#) registration forms and hotel information are available on NASCSA's website. The room block will be held until 9/26/11 so it is important to reserve your room prior to that date.

The hotel features complimentary Wi-Fi access as well as complimentary shuttle service from the hotel (subject to availability). Due to the popularity of the 25th Anniversary luncheon, which provided an opportunity for attendees to stay on the property and network with their colleagues, this year we will feature a luncheon during the conference, with a nominal increase in registration fee to cover the cost. For information on exhibitor or sponsorship opportunities please contact Kathy Keough at kathykeough@nascsa.org.

2011 Travel Scholarships Awarded

This year's travel scholarships have been awarded to the following individuals to attend the 2011 annual

DEA Schedules TakeBack Day on Oct. 29

The US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has scheduled another National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, October 29, 2011, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. to provide a venue for persons who want to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs. Please check back in mid-September to find convenient collection locations in your zip code area, county, city, or state. For more information click [here](#).

DEA Hosts Pharmacy Diversion Awareness Conference

The US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is hosting the first of several conferences to take place around the country on Sept. 17-18, 2011 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The conference is open to pharmacy personnel (pharmacists, pharmacy technicians,

conference:

- Cheryl Anderson, South Carolina Board of Pharmacy
- Larry Loring, New Mexico Board of Pharmacy
- Elizabeth Miller, Tennessee Department of Health
- Bill Sybrant, Montana Board of Pharmacy
- Charles Thomas, Alabama Department of Public Health
- Julia Woods, Mississippi Board of Pharmacy

We are pleased that NASCSA is able to offer this opportunity to member states that would not otherwise be able to have their representatives attend the conference.

ONDCP Releases 2011 National Drug Abuse Strategy and Prescription Drug Abuse Plan

The Office of National Drug Control Policy released two reports that should be of great interest to NASCSA members. The [2011 National Drug Abuse Strategy](#) released in July 2011 highlights the administration's plans and priorities for battling drug abuse. The [2011 Prescription Drug Abuse Plan for 2011](#) entitled "Epidemic: Responding to America's Prescription Drug Abuse Crisis" released in April 2011 focuses on four major areas:

1. Educating patients and health care providers;
2. Increasing use of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs;
3. Implementing and promoting the use of prescription drug disposal programs; and
4. Supporting law enforcement efforts against illegal prescribers.

A representative from ONDCP will be presenting at this year's annual conference in Portland, Maine October 18-21, 2011.

Interstate PDMP Data Sharing Program Launches

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy recently issued a press release indicating that its long

or loss prevention personnel) who are employed by pharmacies or hospitals/clinics that are registered with DEA. There is no charge for attending the conference but pre-registration is required. Additional information is found [here](#)

In addition, if your contact information changes, please login using the original email address you originally had subscribed with and update any information (including your new email address and updated contact information)

State Regulatory Developments

State Regulatory Developments is a monthly compilation by NASCSA of state regulatory actions related to pharmacy and controlled substances. State Regulatory Developments is located on the website www.nascsa.org under "News."

awaited PMP InterConnect™ is now fully operational. The program provides state Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMP's) to share data between state PDMPs, a key element for early detection, intervention, and prevention of substance abuse and diversion of controlled substances. A copy of the full press release is located [here](#).

A number of states including Arizona, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia have already signed Memorandums of Understanding to participate in NABP's InterConnect™ initiative. There is no annual participation fee for the NABP InterConnect™ for participating states for at least five years, and it is the Association's goal that states will not have to pay annual participation fees to participate. NABP will cover all costs associated with the development and ongoing operation of NABP Interconnect. Those interested in obtaining more information should contact NABP Government Affairs staff at governmentaffairs@nabp.net.

NABP, along with Ohio and Mississippi, two of the 10 prescription monitoring programs participating in the NABP PMP InterConnect™, last week attended a meeting organized by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). PMP administrators and staff were invited to Washington, DC to determine whether a proposed data sharing architecture developed with BJA funding has the support of states with PDMPs and whether it can be operationalized without excessive resource needs by those programs.

Institute of Medicine Releases Report on Chronic Pain

The Institute of Medicine recently released a report "Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education, and Research" and offered a blueprint for action in transforming prevention, care, education, and research, with the goal of providing relief for people with pain in America. According to the report, to reach the vast multitude of people with various types of pain, the nation must adopt a population-level prevention and management strategy.

The IOM recommends that HHS develop a comprehensive plan with specific goals, action, and timeframes. Better data are needed to help shape prevention and care efforts, especially with respect to groups of people currently underdiagnosed and undertreated, and the IOM encourages federal and state agencies and private organizations to accelerate the collection of data on pain incidence, prevalence, and treatments. Because pain varies from patient to patient, healthcare providers should increasingly aim at tailoring pain care to each person's experience, and self-management of pain should be promoted. In addition, because there are major gaps in knowledge about pain across health care and society alike, the IOM recommends that federal agencies and other stakeholders redesign education programs to bridge these gaps. A copy of the report may be found [here](#).

Ohio "Pill Mill" Legislation Becomes Law

Ohio legislation ([HB 93](#)) aimed to fight illegally operating pain clinics was passed by the Ohio legislature and signed by the Governor. As explained in the May 2011 Ohio State Board of Pharmacy Newsletter, the bill includes the following provisions: "First of all, it will require each pain clinic (as defined by the law) to license with the Board of Pharmacy as a Terminal Distributor of Dangerous Drugs, whether or not they possess drugs in the office or are otherwise exempt from licensure. This bill will also require that the pain clinic be owned by one or more physicians to eliminate those that are being run by convicted felons.

The bill requires criminal background checks on the owners and requires the owners to run criminal background checks on their employees. It also limits the amount of controlled substances that a prescriber may personally furnish a patient to a 72-hour supply and it requires those prescribers who do personally furnish these drugs to patients to report those transactions to the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) program." The state is currently operating under emergency rule effective June 20,

2011. The final rules are being approved and should be implemented in late September. Additional details and information are provided on the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy web site "What's new" tab [here](#).

Retirements and Staff Changes

The following staffing changes have occurred:

- **Johnny Hatcher** has retired from the Texas Department of Public Safety. A replacement has not been announced.
- **Caroline Juran** was named as Executive Director of the Virginia Board of Pharmacy.

Five States Enact PDMP Legislation

[Maryland](#), [Georgia](#), Washington, [Montana](#) and [Arkansas](#) recently became the four latest states to enact legislation creating Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMP). Currently there are 35 states with PDMPs in operation. In addition [Florida](#) recently amended its law related to the PDMP. New Hampshire, Missouri and the District of Columbia are the only states/districts that have not approved PDMP's.

Florida Department of Health (DOH) Provides Update on State's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

The Florida Department of Health (DOH) today provided an update on the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).

- The Electronic - Florida Online Reporting of Controlled Substances Evaluation program (E-FORCSE) has been chosen as the name for the PDMP.
- The program's website - www.eforcse.com - has been updated to reflect the name, and include additional information about the PDMP.
- Health Information Designs, Inc. has been selected to provide the prescription drug monitoring system.

- Dispensers may register for system access on August 1, 2011, and begin uploading dispensing data into the system on September 1, 2011.
- Health care practitioners may register to access and begin using the prescription drug monitoring system on October 17, 2011.

On September 1, 2011, any health care practitioner who has dispensed a controlled substance, as defined in [section 893.03, F.S.](#) (i.e., OxyContin®, Percocet®, Vicodin®, Klonopin®, Xanax®, and Valium®), is required to report dispensing information to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program's database within seven (7) days after dispensing, in accordance with section 893.055, F.S. This includes pharmacies licensed under chapter 465, F.S., and dispensing health care practitioners licensed under chapter 458, 459, 461, 462, 465, or 466, F.S.

Registration for Dispensers begins August 1, 2011. Please visit <http://www.hidinc.com/flpdmp> and view the *Dispenser's Implementation Guide* for step-by-step instructions on how to register as an Uploader, and how to upload your controlled substance dispensing information. The guide provides information regarding system registration and data collection requirements. Reporting begins September 1, 2011. E-FORCSE requests that dispensers report retroactive data from December 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011. Dispensers have until November 30, 2011 to provide this retroactive data.

E-FORCSE complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) as it pertains to protected health information (PHI), electronic protected health information (EPHI), and all other relevant state and federal privacy and security laws and regulations.

Internet Tip Line Created by NADDI

The National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI) recently announced that it has created an Internet email tip line for criminal offenses involving prescription drugs. The site, www.rxtip.org is available now for anyone who

wants to provide law enforcement with a tip that would allow them to proceed with an investigation into these crimes. Once the information is received, it will be passed on by NADDI to the jurisdiction where the criminal offense is located. All information will be kept confidential. Additional information will be posted on NADDI's website at www.naddi.org.

Pharmaceutical Product News

- The Food and Drug Administration recently approved Pfizer and Acura Pharmaceutical's immediate-release opioid painkiller Oxecta (oxycodone) with Aversion technology designed to discourage common methods of abuse like crushing or dissolving.
- The Federation of State Medical Boards in one of its most recent newsletters issued clarification on the use of some buprenorphine products that apparently has been the source of some confusion by prescribers. A copy of the advisory is found on page 3 of the Federation's newsletter available [here](#).

We hope you enjoyed this issue of NASCSA News!
Please share your news items with us!

Sincerely,

Kathy Keough
Executive Director, NASCSA