



BPS E-News Quarterly

June 8, 2012

Vol. 2 Issue 2

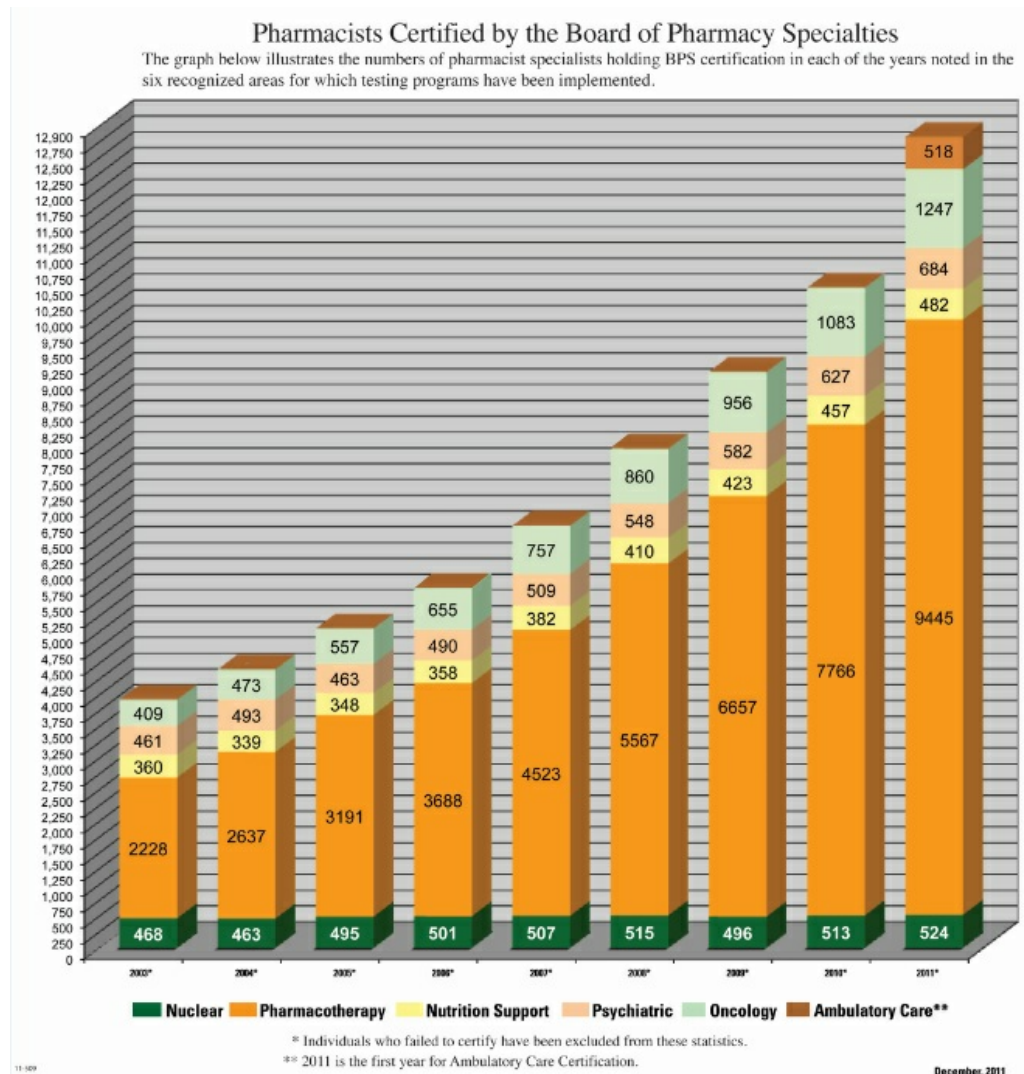
Note from the Executive Director

Greetings! Each quarter BPS will keep you up-to-date on the latest news and information related to the Board of Pharmacy Specialties. BPS has been very active this year and we hope that this newsletter provides you with an update of the many activities of the Board. Feel to share the some or all of the content within the publication to membership, key committees, and constituent groups.

Bill

Number of BPS Board Certified Pharmacists increases from 2010

In March 2012, BPS [announced](#) that a record high number of 3,779 pharmacists took exams at 73 sites worldwide in 2011. Of the number taking the exam, 2,724 were either certified or recertified in six BPS specialties. Pharmacotherapy continues to be the most sought after Board certification where 1,743 of 2,419 candidates were certified for the first time and 85 of 95 were recertified. Currently, there are 9,445 BPS Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialties (BCPS). Amongst all BPS specialty certifications, there are 12,900 Board Certified Pharmacists, which represents a 20% increase from 2010.



Specialty Council Update

Ambulatory Care - The Specialty Council held a one-day Item Development Workshop in March 2012 in New Orleans, LA, in conjunction with the APhA Annual Meeting. In June, the Specialty Council will convene a one-day Exam Assembly Meeting followed by a half-day Specialty Council Business Meeting.

Pharmacotherapy - The Specialty Council held a one-day Bank Maintenance in February 2012 in Las Vegas, NV. In June, the Specialty Council will convene a one-day Exam Assembly Meeting followed by a half-day Specialty Council Business Meeting.

Oncology - The Specialty Council held a one-day Role Delineation Study Meeting in March 2012 in Orlando, FL, in conjunction with the HOPA Annual Conference. BPS also participated in the exhibit program during conference. In June, the Specialty Council will convene a one-day Exam

Assembly Meeting and a half-day Specialty Council Business Meeting.

Psychiatric Pharmacy - Re-rubricing took place during the CPNP Annual Meeting in Tampa, FL on April 28, 2012. The new content outline will be used for the 2013 examination. The 2012 examination will use the current specialty content outline. In July, the Specialty Council will convene a one-day Exam Assembly Meeting and a half day Specialty Council Business Meeting.

Nuclear Pharmacy - The Specialty Council held a one-day Item Development Workshop in March 2012 in New Orleans, LA, in conjunction with the APhA Annual Meeting. In July, the Specialty Council will convene a one-day Exam Assembly Meeting and a half day Specialty Council Business Meeting.

Nutrition Support Pharmacy - The Specialty Council held a one-day Item Development Workshop in January 2012 in Orlando, FL, in conjunction with the A.S.P.E.N. Clinical Nutrition Week. In June, the Specialty Council will convene at one-day Exam Assembly Meeting and a half day Specialty Council Business Meeting.

BPS to explore New Specialties in Cardiology and Infectious Disease

In March, BPS [announced](#) that its Board of Directors approved role delineation studies in Cardiology and Infectious Diseases. The role delineation study is critical step that determines whether these practice areas are based upon specialized knowledge of the pharmaceutical sciences and specialized functions commonly performed practitioners in these proposed specialties. Currently, Cardiology and Infectious Diseases are recognized by BPS as Added Qualifications under the Pharmacotherapy Specialty and will continue as such until BPS makes a determination regarding their specialty status.

CCP holds Quarterly Meeting

In May, the [Council of Credentialing in Pharmacy](#) (CCP) met in Alexandria. I serve as Chair of this coalition that represents twelve (12) national pharmacy organizations. The majority of the meeting was spent discussing topics related to pharmacy technician, including technician job analysis, [C.R.E.S.T. Proceedings](#), and training standards. The work of CCP is very important to the profession and BPS as we work to improve patient care through recognition and promotion of specialized training, knowledge, and skills in pharmacy. Since 1999, CCP has and will continue to develop a number of [resource documents](#) relevant to pharmacy.

Board discusses Strategy, changes Petition Submission & issues a Call for Petitions

In May, the BPS Board met in Arlington, VA and reviewed the process to develop a new three-year strategic plan. The strategic plan document should be completed in mid- to late-2012 and will establish goals, strategies, and metrics. The strategic plan will serve as a roadmap that provides guidance to BPS leadership and staff as we progress toward the BPS Vision of being "the premier post-licensure certification agency serving the needs of the pharmacy profession and the public."

The Board also reviewed and approved revisions to the [Petitioner's Guide for Recognition of a Pharmacy Practice Specialty](#). BPS [announced](#) that the revisions will improve efficiency, optimize the use of communications technology, and streamline the timetable for considering petitions. The goal will be to review petitions within six months.

After the BPS Board reviewed evidence constituting the Role Delineation Studies (RDS) for potential pharmacy specialties, BPS [issued](#) a Call for Petitions in Critical Care Pharmacy and Pediatric Pharmacy. Conducting a RDS is a critical step in evaluating a proposed specialty. The purpose of the RDS is to determine whether these areas are based upon specialized knowledge of the pharmaceutical sciences, as well as specialized functions routinely performed by practitioners in these proposed specialties.

BPS Clarifies Eligibility Requirements

In April, BPS [provided guidance](#) to clarify eligibility requirements for the 2012 BPS examinations. Candidates do not have to complete a residency in order to become Board eligible. All specialties recognize three to four years of practice experience, with at least 50% of the candidate's time spent in the specialty practice area defined by the [BPS Content Outline](#) for the specialty, as meeting this element of the eligibility requirements. Practice experience requirements are dependent upon the specialty. The completion of a PGY-1 or PGY-2 residency in the specialty area will allow candidates to become Board eligible more quickly; the exact requirements vary by specialty. Please note that in 2013, BPS will only recognize residencies that are accredited by ASHP as meeting that part of the eligibility requirements.

For more information on BPS specialties, including applying for the 2012 examination, visit www.bpsweb.org.

CMS Rule Supports Pharmacists Participation in Patient Care

In May, the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) [announced](#) modifications to the [conditions of participation](#) that allow hospitals and critical access hospitals the ability to grant privileges to pharmacists. By broadening the concept of "medical staff," non-physician practitioners are eligible candidates to practice in a hospital with privileges in accordance with state law. Pharmacists living in one of the states with collaborative practice agreements can care for Medicare and Medicaid patients within the scope of practice.

2012 BPS Exam Dates

Please note these important dates for the 2012 BPS examinations:

- **July 1, 2012** - Deadline to request another exam site (city) not currently listed. Please note special fees apply to these requests and they must be approved.
- **August 1, 2012** - Application Deadline.
- **September 1, 2012** - Last day to withdraw or change test sites.
- **October 6, 2012** - BPS exam administration.

Visit BPS at these Upcoming Events

- Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) Annual Meeting
 - June 9 - 13, 2012
 - Miami, FL
- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Summer Meeting and Exhibition
 - June 10 - 13, 2012
 - Baltimore, MD

- American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Annual Meeting
 - October 21 - 24, 2012
 - Hollywood, FL

- Joint Forces Pharmacy Seminar (JFPS)
 - October 29 - November 1, 2012
 - San Diego, CA

- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting
 - December 2-6, 2012
 - Las Vegas, NV

Best Regards,

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