ACCP’s 2012 Public and Professional Relations Committee was charged to address the following question: Should organized clinical pharmacy promote a consistent, standardized process of patient care provided by clinical pharmacists that could apply to any clinical practice setting?

The need for a comprehensive and consistent practice for clinical pharmacists is paramount at a time when health care systems are being reformed and the essential health care team members who deliver high-quality, cost-effective, patient-centered services are being identified. Reflecting on the variability of clinical pharmacists’ approaches to providing clinical pharmacy services, the contributions of clinical pharmacists to patient care are often difficult to define. This variability might pose a challenge to the profession as it seeks to provide a sound basis to external service coding bodies, for reimbursement purposes, and other entities responsible for defining discipline-specific patient care roles and responsibilities.

In the keynote session dedicated to Advancing a Comprehensive and Consistent Practice for Clinical Pharmacists: The Future Is Now held at the 2012 ACCP Annual Meeting, Dr. Linda Strand, Vice President of Professional Services for Medication Management Systems, Inc., and Professor Emeritus, University of Minnesota, addressed ACCP members and urged the College to define a comprehensive and consistent professional practice for clinical pharmacists. To ensure success, Dr. Strand recounted five components for this newly defined service. These are that 1:

1. the service be described simply, in what it can do for the patient;
2. the service be based on standards of care so that it can be delivered consistently from one practitioner to the next and from one patient to the next;
3. the service integrate with the rest of the health care team in terms of consistent terminology, philosophy, care process, and standards of practice;
4. the service be able to generate measurable results that are reproducible; and
5. the service be paid for the same way as other patient care is reimbursed.

Dr. Strand further described each of these components. She outlined 10 steps to the provision of a comprehensive medication management service, highlighted the importance of the agreement between the professional practice and clinical services, and reviewed the guidelines for the documentation of comprehensive medication management in the patient-centered medical home and the resource-based relative value scale for reimbursing medication management services.

This keynote session represents an important step in defining such a service. Together with the results of the committee’s findings and input provided by ACCP members, these will guide the next steps in ACCP’s endeavor to define a comprehensive and consistent professional practice for clinical pharmacists.

Continuing Education Program to Advance Clinical Pharmacy Services in China

The Third Annual Program on Pharmaceutical Care Practice, which is part of the 2012 continuing education project plan of the Chinese Pharmaceutical Association, was held in Shanghai, China, on August 18–22, 2012.

The training program aimed to promote clinical pharmacist personnel training and to improve the theory and practice level of clinical pharmacists. Dr. Yu Zicheng, Director of the Department of Pharmacy at Shanghai Yangpu District Central Hospital and convener of the program, indicated that “[in China, more and more pharmacists start to enter the ward to carry out clinical pharmacy services. However, ... inadequate education and training hinder the effectiveness [of these services].” As such, “post-graduate continuing education is very important.”

This multiday training program covered various pharmacotherapeutic as well as professional topics related to clinical pharmacy practice. Program sessions included updates on infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance, cardiovascular diseases, enteral and parenteral nutrition, respiratory diseases, drug-induced liver injury, and medication errors and their prevention. Professional topics included sessions on the critical elements in and progress of pharmaceutical care practice in China and abroad, pharmacy information services, and establishment of research programs in clinical practice. Representing the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, Dr. Wafa Dahdal presented on residency training and professional competence of the clinical pharmacist as well as pharmaceutical care, practice models, and clinical pharmacist services in the United States.

Mark Your Calendar

ACCP Updates in Therapeutics® 2013
April 19–23, 2013
Reno, Nevada

2013 ACCP Annual Meeting
October 13–16, 2013
Albuquerque, NM
International Student Bodies Call for Patient-Centered Pharmacist Services

The European Pharmaceutical Students’ Association and the International Pharmaceutical Students’ Federation released the Student Declaration on the Future of Pharmacists this past October. This visionary declaration addresses the professional development of pharmacists, educational processes, and the role of the future pharmacists. It encompasses three sections: global health: the role of the pharmacist in health care; profession: the pharmacist as a competent health care provider; and education: from students to professionals, from professionals to competent pharmacists.

In this declaration, the students present their vision for the role of the future pharmacists and state that “[f]or the advancement of global health, we are, as future health care professionals, supporters of a model that is:

- Patient-centered
- Patient-safe
- Patient-trusted
- Patient-accessible.”


From Theory to Bedside: Clinical Reasoning Series—Available for the First Time as Home Study

Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialists (BCPSs) now have the option of completing the home versions of From Theory to Bedside: Clinical Reasoning Series to earn recertification education credit.

The series focuses on cutting-edge, contemporary therapeutic topics and demonstrates scientifically sound clinical reasoning and decision-making. The 2012 program titled “Antimicrobial Resistance: Prevention and Management Strategies” provides an overview of current and emerging antimicrobial resistance patterns. Expert educators and practitioners discuss clinical and cost-effective prevention and management strategies for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE), and *Clostridium difficile* (C. difficile) infections that help inform individual patient care and formulary decisions. Sessions on antimicrobial stewardship and formulary and pharmacoeconomic considerations further guide the provision of cost-effective services that improve patient outcomes.

To earn 6.0 hours of BCPS recertification credit, BCPSs must successfully complete a Web-based posttest for the program by November 30, 2012.


Pediatric Pharmacotherapy

*Pediatric Pharmacotherapy* focuses on the unique therapeutic needs of neonates, infants, children, and adolescents. For a long time, pharmacotherapy educators have been without a source for concise pediatric-specific pharmacotherapy information. To close this gap in the literature, ACCP has recruited experts in pediatric pharmacy to write this comprehensive textbook—an essential resource for students, residents, and any clinician involved in the care of pediatric patients.

Contents include information on specific disease states as well as drug selection and use, monitoring of effectiveness and toxicity, prevention of medication errors, and patient/caregiver education. Chapters cover the introduction of pediatric care, pediatric pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and toxicology in pediatrics; medication safety; communication with pediatric caregivers; and sections on disease states in cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, renal, and hematology systems as well as the fields of psychiatry, infectious diseases, and more.

The textbook encompasses the following sections:

- Introduction (8 chapters)
- Cardiovascular/Pulmonary (7 chapters)
- FEN/Gastrointestinal (6 chapters)
- Renal/Endocrinology (3 chapters)
- Neuro/Psychiatric (9 chapters)
- Infectious Diseases/Immunology (13 chapters)
- Hematology/Oncology (7 chapters)

*Pediatric Pharmacotherapy* will be an important addition to the pediatric pharmacy literature—a must-have book for students, residents, and any clinician involved in the care of pediatric patients. More information on this text is available at [www.accp.com/bookstore/th_01pp.aspx](http://www.accp.com/bookstore/th_01pp.aspx).
A Message from the Editor

Dear Colleagues:

The global focus is on patient-centered care.

At the keynote session of the 2012 ACCP Annual Meeting held in Hollywood, Florida, Dr. Linda Strand, Vice President of Professional Services for Medication Management Systems, Inc., challenged clinical pharmacist attendees to examine the needs, expectations, and opportunities in an evolving health care system that increasingly demands patient-centered, coordinated, comprehensive, high-quality, and cost-effective care and the importance of a comprehensive and consistent professional practice for clinical pharmacists. The article on “Patient-Centered Care and Clinical Pharmacist Professional Practice” further highlights ACCP’s work to identify a comprehensive and consistent pharmacist professional practice.

Patient-centered care was also a focal point of several presentations delivered at the 41st ESCP Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy held October 29–31, 2012, in Barcelona, Spain, where several speakers identified the need to harmonize the terms used and the services provided by pharmacists.

Furthermore, pharmacy students have voiced their vision on patient-centered practices for pharmacists in the Student Declaration on the Future of Pharmacists developed by the European Pharmaceutical Students’ Association and the International Pharmaceutical Federation and released at the Centennial Congress of the International Pharmaceutical Federation held in Amsterdam on October 7, 2012.

There is no better way to underscore the global focus on patient-centered care and the need to advance clinical pharmacist practice than the title of the 2012 ACCP Annual Meeting keynote session: “Advancing a Comprehensive and Consistent Practice for Clinical Pharmacists—The Future Is Now.”

Sincerely,

Wafa Y. Dahdal, Pharm.D., BCPS (AQ Cardiology)

Call for Papers

Individuals are invited to submit articles for publication in future issues of the newsletter in the following departments:

- Clinical Pharmacy Practice
- Clinical Pharmacist or Clinical Practice Profile
- Patient Care
- Research and Practice
- Pharmacy Education
- Continuing Professional Development

To obtain more information and submit an article, see Information for Authors at www.accp.com/docs/international/InformationForAuthors.pdf.

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