Attend the Largest-Ever ACCP Virtual Poster Symposium – It’s Free!

Mark your calendar for the ninth annual ACCP Virtual Poster Symposium, scheduled for May 26–27, 2020. Two interactive sessions will be held May 26 and 27, 7:00–9:00 p.m. (EDT), during which authors will be available for real-time online question-and-answer sessions alongside their virtual posters. Posters will be on display May 25–31 for asynchronous viewing and comment. An up-to-date web browser is the only technology required to participate in the interactive sessions. Attendance is free. Everyone is invited to attend – ACCP members, colleagues, friends, and family. To review posters, create a personal schedule, and attend the 2020 ACCP Virtual Poster Symposium, visit https://accp.confex.com/accp/2020vp/meetingapp.cgi/Login/current.

Clinical Pharmacy’s Response to COVID-19
How Are You Involved in COVID-19–Related Practice, Research, Education, or Leadership?

ACCP wants to hear from members who are making a difference during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the College has already received numerous submissions, ACCP wants to know more about the many activities ACCP members are engaged in and to share these experiences with others. Toward that end, please consider submitting:

- Descriptions of how you and/or your colleagues in clinical pharmacy are enhancing or expanding patient care, mitigating viral spread, improving your work environment, assisting patients/caregivers, and supporting your students and residents during the pandemic.
- Accounts of your participation in interprofessional collaborations to establish new guidelines for/approaches to COVID-19.
- Examples of how you and/or your colleagues in clinical pharmacy are participating in research and other scholarly activities that are making a difference during the pandemic.

This information will be shared to inspire, motivate, and provide ideas that spark others to pursue similar approaches. To share your story, click here.

ACCP Releases New Medication Optimization Graphic

Medication optimization contributes to the quadruple aim of health care: improving population health, enhancing the patient experience, reducing costs, and improving the worklife of health care clinicians. Indeed, medication optimization is central to ACCP’s vision for pharmacists and the pharmacy profession: “As health care providers responsible for high-quality patient care, pharmacists will be accountable for medication optimization in the prevention and treatment of disease.”

The College has pursued strategies to promote medication optimization, including funding a study of the implementation and effectiveness of comprehensive medication management (CMM) – a holistic, consistent approach to the patient care process that optimizes medication-related outcomes.

A graphic (below) has been developed to characterize medication optimization as the synergy achieved by establishing optimal medication regimens and ensuring their optimal use. The graphic illustrates the processes by which medication optimization is achieved and its implementation, impact, and dissemination. This “at-a-glance” graphic is intended to serve as an informational piece for ACCP members, interprofessional organizations with which ACCP collaborates, and other audiences. The graphic also shows how medication optimization contributes to the quadruple aim and highlights the importance of the findings of the CMM in Primary Care Study and ACCP’s founding membership in the Get the Medications Right (GTMRx) Institute. Finally, the graphic reflects the College’s support of continued expansion of CMM beyond the primary care setting in
Medication optimization is a patient-centered, team-based approach to improve patient outcomes. ACCP supports the goal of achieving medication optimization for all patients across the care continuum.

**IMPACT**

Medication optimization is integral to achieving all components of the Quadruple Aim:
- Improving population health
- Enhancing the patient experience
- Reducing costs
- Improving work life for health care clinicians

**PROCESS**

Medication optimization results from a consistent patient care process, such as that endorsed by the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners (JCPP). It is achieved by optimizing the patient’s medication regimen and optimizing medication use.

Optimizing the medication regimen requires the health care team to:
- evaluate response to current medications
- identify areas for improvement
- develop a care plan to achieve treatment goals

Optimizing medication use requires the health care team to ensure that the patient:
- understands and agrees with the care plan
- has access to the medications
- participates in follow-up evaluations

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Comprehensive medication management (CMM) is a holistic, consistent approach to the patient care process that optimizes medication-related outcomes.* Based on the findings of the CMM in Primary Care Study, ACCP encourages implementation of CMM in all patient care settings.

*accp.com/CMM_Care_Process

For more information on CMM, visit optimizingmeds.org.

**DISSEMINATION**

ACCP advocates dissemination of the results of the CMM in Primary Care Study and ongoing research related to medication optimization. As a founding member of the Get the Medications Right Institute (gtmr.org), ACCP promotes medication optimization and CMM practices that ensure appropriate personalized use of medications and gene therapies. This approach emphasizes to all stakeholders how a systematic, collaborative, and evidence-based decision-making process can achieve medication optimization.
order to achieve medication optimization across the entire care continuum.

References

Announcing the 2020–2021 ACCP-ASHP-VCU Congressional Healthcare Policy Fellow

Nimit Jindal has been named the American College of Clinical Pharmacy–American Society of Health-System Pharmacists–Virginia Commonwealth University Congressional Healthcare Policy Fellow for 2020–2021.

Jindal is currently completing a PGY1 community-based pharmacy residency at Moose Pharmacy in Concord, North Carolina, through the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy’s program. He earned his Pharm.D. degree from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers.

Launched in 2006 under the guidance of ACCP’s C. Edwin Webb, Pharm.D., MPH, the fellow program comprises unique health care policy learning experiences in the U.S. Congress and the government affairs offices of ACCP and ASHP. Pharmacists who participate in the program gain real-world insight into health care policy analysis and development through immersion in the congressional environment. Fellows are actively mentored in legislative evaluation, policy development, research, and writing while integrating practical experience with theory.

Jindal decided to attend pharmacy school because his dad was an independent pharmacy owner. He grew up working in the pharmacy as a cashier and interacting with an underserved patient population.

I would see a lot of patients decline certain medications simply because they couldn’t afford them, even with insurance. I saw community practice as a way of making a difference on the ground, in the communities, and serving the patients I felt compelled to help when I was a cashier in that environment. In pharmacy school, I heard a lot about payment models and delivery models. I was interested in getting engaged in policy, but I knew that before I could do that, I needed to understand how those models work, so that’s why I pursued a community pharmacy residency.

For the past 2 years, Jindal has served as the Piscataway Township Ward 4 Elected Committeeman, where he has engaged with elected members of local and state governments to develop policy solutions to infrastructure and educational funding concerns. This and other opportunities to influence policy changes fueled his decision to pursue this fellowship.

I’m really excited about this program because I feel like I have a good idea of how patients access care in our communities. There’s really no other program in the country that allows you to develop such a strong foundation to go out and make meaningful changes in the health care policy environment.

After completing the fellowship, Jindal hopes to continue to be engaged in health policy development, whether at the state or federal level: “I think keeping pharmacists and other health care providers involved in the policy conversation is how we really push the envelope forward.”

Alumni Fellows
The 2019–2020 fellow, Kyle Robb, Pharm.D., currently serves on the minority staff of the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP). After serving in the program, past fellows have gone on to engage in a variety of other important roles in health care policy and government:

- Nilofar Jafari, Pharm.D., MPH, currently serves as a senior health consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton in its military health division.
- Rita A. Habib, Pharm.D., MPH, is currently a full-time staff member in the office of Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO).
- Tracy Rupp, Pharm.D., MPH, is currently a consumer safety officer, CDER Office of Compliance, at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- Daniel Nam, RPh, JD, the 2013–2014 fellow, is now an associate principal, pharmacy policy at Avalere Health.
Applications for the 2021–2022 Pharmacy Healthcare Policy Fellow Program

Interested candidates should visit the pharmacy Congressional Healthcare Policy Fellow program website for more information and instruction on submitting an application. For more information, click here.

President’s Column
CMM Is Important, but ACCP Is Doing Much More

Brian L. Erstad, Pharm.D., FCCP, BCPS

Recently, I heard several comments from ACCP members that comprehensive medication management (CMM) seems to be ACCP’s only priority, to the neglect of other issues of importance. There also appears to be confusion among some members regarding what CMM entails.

It’s true that CMM is an important priority for ACCP. As announced in the October 2015 ACCP Report, ACCP and the ACCP Research Institute (now the ACCP Foundation) awarded a major grant to the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy, the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy, and the American Academy of Family Physicians National Research Network to study the impact of implementing CMM in primary care practices. In light of this award, driving the implementation of CMM as an essential component of medication optimization is one of the main priorities listed in ACCP’s strategic plan. This is a major focus for the ACCP policy, practice, and government affairs staff and drives many related interprofessional collaborations, such as the College’s involvement with the Get the Medications Right (GTMRx) Institute. I encourage interested readers to click here to learn more about CMM and to review the related story in this issue of the ACCP Report about the College’s new medication optimization graphic.

Nevertheless, CMM is by no means ACCP’s only priority. For example, of this year’s 20 committees and task forces, CMM serves as an emphasis for only one committee, the Clinical Practice Affairs Committee. This committee is charged with developing a commentary on CMM in non-primary care settings, which should be relevant to the many ACCP members who don’t practice in an ambulatory or primary care setting. In addition, I’ve charged other committees and task forces to address a variety of issues related to my presidential theme of “Extending the Frontiers of Practice, Interprofessional Collaborations, and Research.” For example, the Certification Affairs Committee is developing a criterion-driven rubric and process for compiling and maintaining a directory of experts who can serve on interprofessional guideline and consensus statement panels. In addition, the Research Affairs Committee is developing a learning module for practitioners, postgraduate trainees, and students who want to become involved in developing evidence-based guidelines in the future. Other committees and task forces have been charged to develop commentaries or position papers on issues such as precision medicine, telehealth and technology, and direct-to-consumer advertising, to name just a few. To view the full range of issues currently being addressed by this year’s committees and task forces, access this year’s compendium of committee and task force charges.

Finally, if you’ve not already done so, please provide the Board of Regents with additional suggestions for future College priorities by participating in this year’s “issues survey.” The survey will remain open through Monday, May 25, so you still have time to participate!
2020 Clinical Reasoning Series in Pediatric Pharmacy Now Available for Home Study

Earn up to 10.0 hours of BCPPS recertification credit from home with the 2020 Clinical Reasoning Series in Pediatric Pharmacy: Advanced Topics in Pediatric Infectious Disease.

The Clinical Reasoning Series is one component of the professional development program developed by ACCP and approved for Board Certified Pediatric Pharmacy Specialist (BCPPS) certification. This educational series explores cutting-edge, contemporary therapeutic topics and demonstrates scientifically sound clinical reasoning and decision-making. The series employs learning activities designed to advance participants’ skills and abilities to critically evaluate the scientific evidence and effectively incorporate significant findings into daily practice that lead to effective and safe patient care.

Advanced Topics in Pediatric Infectious Disease offers an in-depth look at non-tuberculosis mycobacterium treatment. Participants also gain skills in evaluating the published literature concerning the management of pediatric infectious disease and in designing an individualized, evidence-based therapeutic plan for treating patients with prolonged and continuous infusion β-lactams. This year, the format features recorded webinar lectures as well as interactive cases. The product includes two modules:
- Non-tuberculosis Mycobacteria offers 4.0 credit hours.
- Prolonged and Continuous Infusion β-Lactams offers 6.0 credit hours.

Earn 10.0 hours of BCPPS recertification credit by successfully completing both modules.

To learn more about the 2020 Clinical Reasoning Series in Pediatric Pharmacy: Advanced Topics in Pediatric Infectious Disease or to purchase the product, please visit the ACCP Bookstore.

Increase the Impact of Your Scholarly Publications

Clinical pharmacists begin their scholarly career with hopes of publishing their research. Appropriate mentoring shifts this goal to publishing in a reputable journal and publishing articles that are highly downloaded and cited. These metrics indicate the value of the published work to patient care and additional research. Some research is widely circulated because it applies to a broad patient population, addresses a current hot topic, or is conducted by a highly regarded research team. Although the journal and publisher are primarily responsible for promoting published articles, an author can optimize the performance of an individual manuscript.

Promoting your own publication begins before manuscript submission. Choosing a title and writing an abstract that is clear and searchable and that uses the most relevant keywords is important for search engine optimization (SEO). This increases your article’s discoverability, helping people find, read, and cite your work. Wiley’s Author Resources provide tips on writing for SEO. An additional pre-submission decision for all authors is whether to publish under the terms of the journal’s standard copyright agreement or whether to publish under the terms of a Creative Commons license using OnlineOpen. Authors who choose to publish using OnlineOpen will be charged a fee (article publication charge), but the article is freely available online for all to read, download, and share. Removing the need for a subscription, membership, or institutional access will increase the accessibility of your published work.

You can promote your published work through multiple outlets. First, make sure your institution’s public relations office is aware of your newly published work, and provide suggestions on external organizations and news outlets interested in your work. Second, periodically update your employee profile page and your...
professional social media and researcher accounts to reflect recent publications (e.g., LinkedIn, Mendeley, ResearchGate). In addition, ACCP journals permit authors to share unlimited free access to their article with up to 10 colleagues through Article Share, allowing you to intentionally engage others in a conversation about your work.

ACCP journals post all accepted manuscripts on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn and encourage authors to submit Twitter handles and text to include in social media posts at article submission. Following journal accounts on social media will give you the opportunity to repost, add comments, and engage others on social media when your manuscript is featured. You can also create a post, an infographic, or even a short video to share on social media for additional discoverability and engagement.

Finally, take advantage of opportunities to talk about your research. Accept invitations to speak at reputable conferences and contribute to textbooks, educational resources, podcasts, and blogs. Most journal websites allow you to track your article’s performance as measured by citations and the Altmetric score. Periodically record this information on your curriculum vitae, dossier, or employee file to track the performance of individual articles and document your development as a scholar.

The impact of your published manuscript is primarily determined by your research design and results. However, creating publications that are promotable, publishing in journals that actively showcase your work, and independently drawing attention to your own publications will enhance your article’s discoverability and subsequent impact within your field of study.

**AIHP Launches COVID-19 Pandemic Project**

The American Institute of the History of Pharmacy (AIHP) has launched the AIHP COVID-19 Pandemic Pharmacy Historical Documentation Project to record, document, and preserve pharmacists’ COVID-19–related stories and firsthand experiences. AIHP has established a special portal on its website where pharmacists and others can contribute materials for its archives. Contributions can be written or video journals, or audio recordings, that memorialize stories and experiences.

AIHP also wishes to collect photos, videos, artifacts, and documents related to the pandemic. Through the website portal, participants can immediately record their COVID-19 experiences in a text box and/or upload up to three digital items for preservation in the AIHP archives. Contributors can also indicate whether they would like to be contacted in the future to share their stories. Through the COVID-19 pandemic project, AIHP hopes pharmacists will address questions such as:

- How did the public health emergency affect your work?
- How did medication therapy options change and evolve during the crisis?
- How did social distancing and self-quarantine affect pharmacy practice, pharmacy education, or patients and other stakeholders?
- What were your most difficult challenges?

This is a unique opportunity to record and document for posterity the significant role of pharmacists, and the pharmacy profession, during this historic public health crisis. ACCP members are encouraged to participate in the project and to share this information with colleagues who also wish to contribute to the project. Visit [https://aihp.org/collections/aihp-covid19-project/](https://aihp.org/collections/aihp-covid19-project/) for more information.

**ACCP Releases Third Edition of Residency Field Guide**

Pharmacy students who are competing for residency programs have a new, updated tool to help them stand out from the crowd. The ACCP Field Guide to Becoming a Standout Pharmacy Residency Candidate, Third Edition, offers a step-by-step approach for students seeking to distinguish themselves from other candidates.

Written by experienced and dedicated pharmacy residency proponents, the Field Guide provides detailed, practical information to use throughout the first, second, third, and all-important fourth years of pharmacy education – information students can use to chart their course to a successful postgraduate experience. Updated chapters such as Step I: Chart Your Journey, Step II: Make the Grade, Step VII: Expand Your Network, and more, join with the newest addition to the Field Guide, Step X: Write an Effective Letter of Intent. This new chapter, written by Scott D. Nei, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCCCP, and Garrett E. Schramm, Pharm.D., FCCP, BCPS, will help students focus their message and put their best foot forward. Sample letters of intent illustrate the do’s and don’ts for students promoting themselves to residency program directors and members of the selection panel.

The third edition of the Field Guide presents 12 important steps to becoming a sought-after candidate:

- Step I: Chart Your Journey, by Stuart T. Haines,
As Executive Editor Jerry L. Bauman notes in the introduction:

Your career path may meander depending on opportunities that arise. A residency is a step in that life-long journey; if you are passionate about this step, then this book should guide you—and help you emerge from the crowd.


ACCP Member Spotlight: Scott Smorra

Scott Smorra, Pharm.D., BCPS, is a clinical pharmacy specialist for investigational drug service/research at Providence Portland Medical Center. He received his Pharm.D. degree in 2003 from the University of Arizona and completed a PGY1 residency in pharmacy practice at Providence Health & Services in Portland, Oregon. He continued his profession at Providence Health & Services as a clinical pharmacist and then as a clinical specialist in internal medicine. In 2018, he transitioned into his current position.

Smorra is responsible for managing drug therapies for patients enrolled in phase I, II, and III clinical trials. His practice works with the National Cancer Institute and the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) drug companies to provide patients with new immunotherapies for late-stage cancers, novel therapies for complicated neurologic conditions, and treatments for emerging infectious diseases (COVID-19). He approaches each day with excitement and enthusiasm to learn about how patients respond to a drug treatment provided by his team. “It’s very rewarding to see a new drug make it to market and to know that our pharmacy team helped contribute to the research that led to the FDA approval,” he states.

His career has largely been influenced by John E. Murphy, Pharm.D., FCCP, FASHP; Brian L. Erstad,
When clinical pharmacy was just beginning to move into the mainstream, Murphy, Erstad, and Katz collectively encouraged Smorra to think like a clinician. The education and mentoring they provided during pharmacy school directly contributed to his ability to complete a PGY1 residency. Furthermore, he feels they contributed to his confidence and courage to practice as a clinical pharmacy specialist at a large, integrated health system.

Sorra is appreciative of his ACCP membership, which has allowed him to grow professionally through BCPS continuing education and stay up to date with a wide variety of clinical pharmacy topics through ACCP journals. He served as a poster mentor for resident posters during the 2018 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in Anaheim, California, and continues to serve as a reviewer for ACCP’s CV review program for pharmacy students, residents, and new practitioners. In addition to pharmacy-related service, he volunteers for the Oregon Food Bank and Northwest Children’s Outreach.

On a personal level, Smorra cares deeply for his own family and enjoys slowing down and exploring the details of a picturesque view. He volunteers to help build and maintain hiking trails in Oregon and is an Oregon-based photographer who creates finely crafted landscape and nature imagery in the wilderness areas of the Pacific Northwest. His goal is not merely to document nature in a photo, but also to capture the beauty, emotions, and moods of nature. Through photography, he hopes to share some of his emotions while traveling through the wilderness. In fact, most people would be surprised to know that Smorra is an award-winning landscape and nature photographer (www.scottsmorraphotography.com). His best advice is to “treat your patients like they are your own family.” This advice guides his own clinical practice and provides him with clarity when making complex clinical decisions.

ACCP National Student Network Advisory Committee Applications Due June 15

Attention student pharmacists: Would you like to become more involved with the American College of Clinical Pharmacy? ACCP student members who want to develop leadership skills, expand opportunities for student pharmacists within ACCP, and introduce other students to the many facets of clinical pharmacy are encouraged to apply for appointment to the National Student Network Advisory Committee.

The National Student Network Advisory Committee is composed of student members appointed each year by the ACCP president. Members generally serve a 1-year term, and the committee typically has 8–12 members. The committee’s leadership is also appointed by the ACCP president.

Leadership positions include the chair (1-year term), the vice chair (2-year term; serves the first year as the vice chair and then assumes the chair position during the second year), and the secretary (1-year term). If you are interested in serving on the National Student Network Advisory Committee, either as a member-at-large or in a leadership role, please visit www.accp.com/stunet/advisorycommittee.aspx for more information about the committee and how to apply. The application deadline is June 15, 2020.

ACCP National Resident Advisory Committee Applications Due June 15

Are you a resident or fellow who is interested in becoming more involved in ACCP? The American College of Clinical Pharmacy encourages postgraduate trainees who want to enhance their leadership skills, network with colleagues across the country, and interact with clinical pharmacy leaders to apply for appointment to the ACCP National Resident Advisory Committee.

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Call for Abstracts

2020 ACCP Annual Meeting
October 24–27, 2020 • Sheraton Dallas • Dallas, Texas

Research-In-Progress Abstracts
Due July 15, 2020

Abstracts
Due June 15, 2020
The National Resident Advisory Committee is a standing committee composed of resident, fellow, and graduate student members appointed each year by the ACCP president-elect. Members serve a 1-year term, and the committee typically has 8–12 members. Appointed leadership positions include the chair (1-year term) and the vice chair (1-year term).

The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the ACCP Board of Regents and staff, providing feedback and assistance in developing new programs and services for resident members consistent with the College’s vision of clinical pharmacy practice, research, and education.

The committee meets in person at the ACCP Annual Meeting and communicates through conference calls and email thereafter to complete its assigned charges. Appointees to the National Resident Advisory Committee receive a complimentary ACCP Annual Meeting registration. For additional information on the application process or to enter your application, please visit www.accp.com/membership/rac.aspx. The application deadline is June 15, 2020.

Villanova University College of Nursing Initiates National COVID-19 Study of Health Care, First Responder, and Service Workers

The M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing at Villanova University has launched the national COVID-19 Caring About Health for All (CHAMPS) Study to examine data on the physical and mental health and well-being of workers potentially exposed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Managing the health care needs of patients with COVID-19 has tremendously affected not only the lives of those delivering health care directly but also the lives of those who support this effort, from ambulance drivers to maintenance and housekeeping staff, whose service has been essential to maintaining the health care enterprise. All of the essential workers have one thing in common: they are at increased risk of exposure to the virus as well as disruption of their personal and social lives. The COVID-19 CHAMPS Study is designed to understand the immediate as well as the long-term effects on these workers’ health, lives, and careers.

The objective of CHAMPS is to assess the short- and long-term physical, social, and behavioral health of all involved in supporting or delivering care for patients with COVID-19. CHAMPS will also serve as a registry for future, hypothesis-driven substudies of behavioral and biological coping mechanisms and allostatic load (wear and tear on the body), as well as randomized clinical trials. Participants will be recruited throughout the United States and its territories (Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands), with outcomes followed longitudinally for 20 years.

The study will obtain data on the physical and mental health and well-being of workers potentially exposed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the course of their duties. Included are a broad range of occupations, such as those working in the community (police officers, firefighters, emergency personnel, screening staff), as well as those working in permanent or temporary sites who care for patients (pharmacists, nurses, physicians, other health professionals, and service staff).

More information on and access to the COVID-19 CHAMPS Study are available at www.villanova.edu/CHAMPS.

Member Recruiters

Many thanks to the following individuals for recruiting colleagues to join them as ACCP members:

Christopher Bland
Pam Danforth
Brandon Dionne
Tyler Gums
Faraz Khaleghi
Anaissa Leal
Anne Misher
Jennifer Twilla
Mai Vestergaard
Robert Whiteman
Daniel Witt