How is CSHP Supporting Hospital Pharmacists?

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In this era of change, a united pharmacy profession is increasingly important to achieve our collective vision of sustainable, patient-centred pharmacy services. Demonstrating a measurable, positive impact on patients’ outcomes is a continual challenge, and the issues related to medication accessibility and safety are many. What value does CSHP bring to members and to the profession to support pharmacy now and for the future?

CSHP’s Vision and strategies are designed to influence the advancement of hospital pharmacy practice by equipping pharmacists to practise to their full scope, advocating for the profession, collaborating with critical stakeholders, and fostering engagement, networking and learning among our members. CSHP continues to engage with government, regulatory bodies, and professional associations, most recently helping to address 2 key issues: drug shortages and the oncology under-dosing incident in Ontario and New Brunswick (see the report of the formal review: www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/cancer/drugsupply/docs/report_thiessen_oncology_under-dosing.pdf).

Recognizing the limited time that CSHP members have to develop new programs, business cases and change management tools, the Society has now released 3 CSHP 2015 toolkits, each related to a specific CSHP 2015 objective. A fourth is being considered to assist pharmacy management to garner support from senior administration for CSHP 2015-related activities. In response to requests from members for accessible education and electronic resources, CSHP has offered 6 educational webinars since December 2012, covering topics as diverse as evidence-based practice and new standards and requirements from Accreditation Canada. Their recordings can be viewed by members from the CSHP website. Social media options have been expanded beyond Facebook to encompass the CSHP 2015 blog (cshp2015blog.com) and Twitter account (@cshp2015). Select posters presented during CSHP conferences are available virtually at the website and cover a wide range of topics, such as medication reconciliation and key clinical performance indicators. The 2013/2014 competition for student pharmacists will include options to highlight “How will CSHP 2015 impact patient care?” through poster and short story submissions, as well as videos. Just in time for the 2013 Pharmacy Awareness Month, CSHP made an advocacy video on the value of hospital pharmacists accessible to its members for download from the CSHP website.

Since 2007 CSHP has been partnering with the Editorial Board of the Hospital Pharmacy in Canada Report to measure progress with implementation of the CSHP 2015 initiative (www.lillyhospitalsurvey.ca). Just launched, the CSHP 2015 progress updates provide convenient dashboards to report and compare national, regional, and own-facility achievement of CSHP 2015 objectives (www.cshp.ca/programs/cshp2015/index_e.asp).

Members may also wish to review the most recent Official Publications (the newly updated “Clinical Trials: Guidelines for Pharmacies in Healthcare Institutions” and “Documentation of Pharmacists’ Activities in the Health Record: Guidelines”), as well as the latest online continuing education course “Minimizing the Risk of Contamination in the Oncology Pharmacy Setting”.

The foregoing are just some highlights of the ways in which CSHP supports hospital pharmacists. The Society will continue to develop strategic partnerships and ensure its involvement as a key stakeholder and advocate for pharmacy with governments, regulatory bodies, and other national, North American, and international professional associations.

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