

THE SCRIPT

Quarterly Newsletter of the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy

WELCOME TO THE SCRIPT!

Susan McCoy | Executive Director

Welcome to our newsletter forum we're calling, *The Script*. Board of Pharmacy staff will be utilizing *The Script* to communicate with our pharmacists and technicians about current applications of our regulations, as well as any identified news that may be shared via this new communication tool. Communication with our licensees is a priority moving forward in my tenure as Executive Director. Please feel free to contact anyone in our agency concerning issues that may need to be included in this newsletter. Ideas are always welcome and will be taken into consideration. I would also like to hear any feedback you may have so I can get a feel for what is a valuable use of our resources. My email address is: smccoy@mbp.ms.gov.



Our current plans are to make this a quarterly newsletter. Please make reading it and having it available for your pharmacy staff a priority, as this will serve as notification of regulation updates as well. Thank you for getting on board with each of our upcoming changes!

2019 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The following Continuing Education requirements have been revised for 2019:

- 15 hours of Continuing Education are required per licensure period.
- At least five (5) hours must be related to opioid abuse and prevention or some other drug of abuse or addiction related issue.
- At least two (2) hours must be obtained via live seminar or live webcast.

Your Continuing Education must be an ACPE approved program or Mississippi Board of Pharmacy approved program. If a program wishes to provide Board

approved CE to pharmacists, an application must be sent to the Board for approval. This application is available on our website (www.mbp.ms.gov) under QuickLinks on our homepage. For questions please contact the Compliance Division at Compliance@mbp.ms.gov or 601.899.8880.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN UPDATE

Pharmacy Technicians must be registered with the Board in order to perform technician functions. Verify that all employees performing technician duties in the pharmacy are found on the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy Verification Website as ACTIVE or PENDING. There is no "grace period" for technicians to be performing these duties in a pharmacy if not on active or pending status. Please contact the Board office for assistance with License Verification at 601.899.8880.

USP 795 AND USP 797 STANDARDS

As the Board inspects facilities for USP 795 and 797 standards, pharmacies are non-compliant in the area of compounding for office use. Please reference Article XXXI, 1.D. to ensure compliance in this area, "**Pharmacies shall not offer compounded medications to practitioners or other pharmacies for resale. Pharmacies shall not compound medication for practitioners for office administration.**"

DESIGNATED EMAIL ADDRESS FOR FACILITY

Our Compliance Division is going paperless! Each facility will need to designate an email address where your compliance agent can email your completed inspection form. All employees in each facility should be informed of the email address where the inspection forms will be received. Please **do not** submit this email address to the Board Office. Facility staff will be asked for this information once the inspection is completed and should be able to provide it to an agent at any time.



EMAIL
UPDATE

HAVE YOU HEARD? WE'VE GONE GREEN AND SOCIAL!

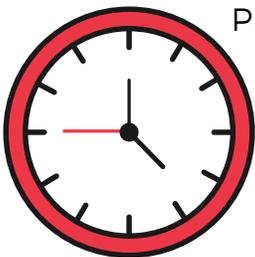
The Mississippi Board of Pharmacy has been promoting our "Going Green" campaign over the last few years. What's this campaign all about? As you may have noticed, our focus has shifted from paper renewal mail-outs and postcards to email distribution of all MBP information. It is important that you have an up-to-date email address on file with our office so you will receive all pertinent information. Simply email us at Licensing@mbp.ms.gov with your name, license/registration/permit number and your new email address and we will update your file.

In an effort to better communicate with you, the MBP has also GONE SOCIAL! We are active on Facebook, Twitter (@MississippiBOP) and LinkedIn (Mississippi Board of Pharmacy). Like us on Facebook and LinkedIn and follow us on Twitter for the most current news, updates and information related to the practice of pharmacy.



IT'S RENEWAL TIME!

Our upcoming renewal period will include the following: pharmacists' licenses, Controlled Substance Registrations for Pharmacists and Facilities, Pharmacy Permits, Medical Gas Permits, Home Health Permits, Drug Facility Permits, Emergency Medication Kits (IMEK) and Pharmacist Advisory Service Permits. These will expire on December 31, 2019. Renewal reminders will be emailed to the email address we have on file, as well as posted on all MBP social media platforms alerting you of the opening of the online renewal portal.



Visit our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) web page and take advantage of a great resource for locating answers to questions you may encounter. If you are unable to find an answer, email us and we will be happy to assist you!

LICENSING@MBP.MS.GOV

MS PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM UPDATES

Now that mandatory use is in full swing, some of you may be thinking, "What can I do to make this process easier?" All pharmacists are permitted to have a delegate to pull PMP profiles on their behalf. A pharmacist's delegate may be a pharmacy technician or a pharmacy student. They simply register for their own account and list any pharmacist that needs them to have access. Once they register, you will log in to your account and approve (or reject) them. You are permitted to have more than one delegate. Should your delegate relationship end, it is your responsibility to remove them from your account. To remove a delegate from your account, go to your delegate management section. You can always call or email should you need assistance with this process.



Integration is also an excellent way to make mandatory use run smoothly. Having your pharmacy software integrated with the MS PMP puts your patient's profile at your fingertips

with just the click of a button! You can find more information regarding integration on our website at www.pmp.mbp.ms.gov under the Resources tab.

MSPMP ERROR CORRECTION UPDATES

Have you experienced issues with error correction? It just got easier! For any prescriptions that are rejected from the PMP due to errors, you can use the Rx Management tab to view the errors and make the corrections within your PMP Account. In order to use this feature, you must have your store's DEA number attached to your profile. If you are unsure if you have this information attached, send us an email (mspmpassist@mbp.ms.gov) and we will be glad to look at your profile. This feature is only available to pharmacists, not to their delegates. You can find more information about this feature on our website or in your PMP Account under MENU > PDMP Links.

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC, PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST

Steve Parker | PBM Administrator | Deputy Director

In 2011 I printed a reminder for myself that still hangs over my desk. It reads, "It is ALWAYS about the PATIENT...Patient Access, Patient Care, Patient Safety & Patient Services!" This touches the heart of our core charge at the MBP to protect the public.

We know pharmacy plays an increasingly vital role in our nation's healthcare. Pharmacists see patients more often than any other healthcare provider. The opportunity for pharmacists to improve patient outcomes is obvious. Pharmacists are not being utilized to the level of their training in our healthcare system. Over recent years I have seen a demise in the number of local pharmacies. I have witnessed a steady decrease in the number of 'in-state' pharmacies versus an increase in 'out-of-state' pharmacies or non-resident pharmacies over the past few years. Currently, our records show of all pharmacies licensed by the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy, 55.6% are out-of-state compared to 44.4% in-state. In 2011 these percentages were approximately opposite. This pattern of out-of-state growth of pharmacies continues, along with the reduction in the number of pharmacies. I call it the 'Centralization of Pharmacy in America.'

The causes are many: mandatory mail order, limited pharmacy networks, mergers and acquisitions of large corporate entities and reimbursement issues are only to name a few. A current critical example, DIR fees. These are a cancer eating at the pharmacy business model. 'Claw backs,' making revenue and expense an unknown, are completely unsustainable for any business. Pharmaceutical costs continue to rise in the U.S. and while every segment of the healthcare system is affected, the patient will ultimately pay the costs.

Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) control virtually all of the above. Much of the PBM system is left under a cloak of darkness. There is not enough transparency in the process. If we are to work together to protect the public, we must shine a light on all aspects of the healthcare system. If we are to find solutions, we must know the cause and effect of why we are where we are.

Pharmacists are intelligent and excellently trained healthcare providers, We must all work together toward finding real solutions. Become an active part of your associations. Speak to your Mississippi legislators and your United States Senators and Congressmen. Educate them on issues and how it affects you and your patients. If we cannot reverse course, I worry about what healthcare, including pharmacy, will look like for our children and grandchildren.