



For Immediate Release

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Iowa Pharmacy Association House of Delegates Adopt Policies

The Iowa Pharmacy Association 2008 House of Delegates convened on June 20-22, 2008, in Des Moines, IA, to consider several policy matters. Over 100 delegate pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and student pharmacists heard the recommendations of the Policy Committee on Public Affairs and Policy Committee on Professional Affairs. These recommendations were debated and the following policy statements were adopted.

Policy on Professional Affairs

I. Store-Based Health Clinics

- A. IPA supports collaboration of pharmacists with store-based health clinic providers to promote quality and ensure continuity of care.
- B. IPA opposes store-based health clinics that use non-pharmacist health care professionals to duplicate or replace clinical services provided by pharmacists when the clinic is located within or adjacent to a pharmacy.

II. Compounding Pharmacy Accreditation

- A. IPA reaffirms policies 04-R2, 02-R1 and 93-U3.

III. Customized Patient Medication Packaging

- A. IPA supports customized patient medication packaging services, such as compliance packaging, provided by a pharmacist in order to optimize patient care.
- B. IPA supports reimbursement for customized medication packaging services that is distinct from payments for the prescription drug product and the associated dispensing fees.
- C. IPA encourages the Board of Pharmacy to develop quality assurance standards that apply to customized patient medication packaging services.

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Policy on Public Affairs

I. Behind the Counter Class of Drugs

- A. IPA supports a legally established behind-the-counter (BTC) class of drugs, to be available without a prescription for an appropriate indication, to be dispensed only after a patient-specific intervention by a pharmacist, and to be accompanied by counseling and appropriate monitoring.
- B. IPA encourages pharmacists to collaborate on BTC drug therapy decisions with patients? health care provider(s) when appropriate for optimal patient care.
- C. IPA supports a standardized process for initial inclusion and permanent maintenance of drugs in a BTC class based on evidence of effectiveness, patient safety, public health interest, and continued evaluation of the process.
- D. IPA supports the development of standards of care and a process for pharmacist compensation for a BTC class of drugs.
- E. Rescind 85-U1, 89-U1, and 90-R3.

II. Restricted Distribution Channels

- A. Rescind 79-U3 and 90-RES1.
- B. IPA recognizes restricted drug distribution systems (RDDS) may be necessary in order to protect public health.
- C. IPA supports restricted drug distribution systems (RDDS) when all of the following are met:
 - A. The requirements do not interfere with the patient's continuity of care
 - B. The requirements preserve the pharmacist-patient relationship
 - C. The requirements are based on fully disclosed and evaluated scientific evidence
 - D. There is scientific consensus that the requirements are necessary and represent the least restrictive means to achieve safe and effective patient care
 - E. The cost of the product and any associated products and/or services are identified for the purposes of reimbursement, mechanisms are provided to compensate providers for special services, and duplicative costs are avoided
 - F. All requirements are stated in functional, objective terms so that any provider who meets the criteria may participate
 - G. The requirements do not interfere with the professional practice of pharmacists, prescribers, or other healthcare providers.

III. Pharmacy Support Persons

- A. Reaffirm 06-U1.
- B. IPA recognizes the definition of non-technical functions as applicable to pharmacy support persons employed by the pharmacy, including but not limited to inventory management, stocking shelves, pulling outdates, deliveries, housekeeping, clerical and cashier.

The Iowa Pharmacy Association is the state society representing the profession of pharmacy, united for the purpose of advancing public health, particularly the pharmaceutical care of all Iowans. The Iowa Pharmacy Association is organized to preserve and advance the interest of the profession and to serve the professional needs of all pharmacists, pharmacy students, and pharmacy technicians.

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