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UPDATE

FALL 2021

From the Executive Director's Desk

Jan Engle, PharmD, PhD (Hon), FAPhA, FCCP, FNAP

Although we are still in the midst of a pandemic, ACPE continues to move forward. Since our last *ACPE Update*, there have been many changes at ACPE. After a year-long process, the ACPE Bylaws have been revised and modernized. The revised Bylaws move ACPE toward nonprofit governance best practices.

The major changes to the Bylaws include a change in the length of a term for Board members from 6 years to 3 years and updated term limits from unlimited to a limit of 3 consecutive terms (9 years). Term limits promote the infusion of new ideas and perspectives to the organization, provide a built-in balance of continuity and turnover, and prevent stagnation or loss of engagement and are a nonprofit governance best practice. The revision includes a transition period that will provide each current director with eligibility to be reappointed to one additional three-year term, even if they are currently in their third term.

Another revised area is qualifications for appointees to the Board of Directors. The changes are intended to increase consistency across appointing organizations while articulating diversity goals for the Board. All appointees will be required to complete Board training as in the past and to comply with ACPE's conflict of interest policies.

ACPE has a new legal team, who reviewed many of our processes and policies. Based on advice from legal counsel, ACPE updated its appeals process. In the policies for degree programs, international programs and continuing pharmacy education programs, we made several changes to make the appeal procedures more efficient and similar to appeal procedures of other accrediting agencies. For example, the current appeals policy requires the Chief Elected Officers of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Pharmacists Association, and National Association of Boards of Pharmacy to serve on the appeals panel. We changed the composition of the appeals panel to allow the organizations to each select a member to serve

on the appeals panel, instead of requiring that the chief elected officer personally serve. We also revised the policies to more accurately reflect regulatory requirements. We also changed the name of the Appellate Commission to the "Appeals Panel" to avoid confusion with ACPE's Continuing Pharmacy Education (CPE) and International Commissions.

Although we are still in the midst of a pandemic, ACPE continues to move forward... there have been many changes in the organization.



The Board of Directors reviewed the current fee structures for our various accreditation and certification activities. Given that many of our constituencies have been impacted by the pandemic, the Board voted to maintain our fee structure at current levels with no increase. For colleges and schools in the US, we will continue our 30% reduction in published fees for virtual site visits. The reduced fee includes the on-site verification visit when required by the US Department of Education.

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From the Executive Director's Desk, [continued from page 1](#)

The ACPE Board of Directors' Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force has been continuing their work. The Task Force has asked the staff to collect additional data from colleges and schools of pharmacy with accredited PharmD programs in an effort to understand the current policies or practices concerning DEI at Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy and to inform our thoughts on how to address DEI in the Standards revision process. Three questions were added to ACPE's annual job placement survey distributed to the academy each summer. The data is currently being compiled and reviewed.

Online pharmacy education — ACPE Guidance

ACPE has been receiving an increase in the number of proposed online pathways from our accredited programs to be offered after the pandemic is over. The US Department of Education has provided guidance to accreditors that allows schools and colleges to use distance education without the normal ACPE approval process for the duration of the national emergency declaration and 180 days following the date on which the COVID-19 national emergency declaration is rescinded. Once the waiver has expired, ACPE will require one-year advance notice for the addition of a distance campus or the implementation of distance education for an existing college or school (more than 25% of the curriculum). Notification is required to allow ACPE sufficient time to conduct the monitoring needed to ensure readiness and continued compliance with the accreditation standards. Failure to comply with the one-year notice requirement constitutes grounds for review and potential adverse accreditation actions. If the distance education component of the curriculum is between 25% and 49%, notice to ACPE is all that is required. If the distance education component is 50% or more, a comprehensive academic plan needs to be submitted and an on-site evaluation conducted to ensure the program's readiness to matriculate students into the online pathway. ACPE staff members are happy to answer any questions about this expectation. It is important to note that any compliance issues with the Standards that are found with the online pathway of a program are an issue for the entire program.

Online pharmacy education — a topic of interest

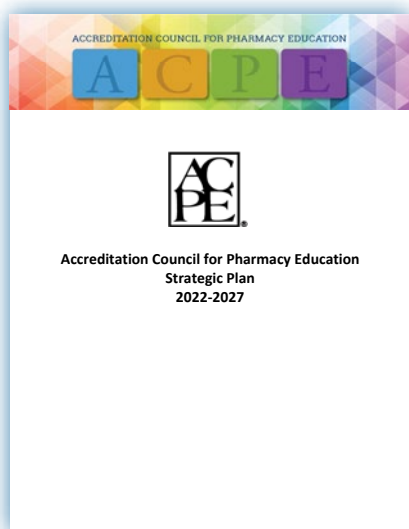
Online pharmacy education is a topic of interest both here in the US and internationally. I gave a presentation during an **International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)** webinar that discussed virtual delivery of pharmacy curriculums with colleague speakers from the UK, Turkey and South Africa. My part of the presentation focused on quality assurance and the role of accreditation standards in virtual pharmacy education. I then provided

*International Pharmaceutical
Federation (FIP) and
Gazi Pharma Symposium
Series webinars*





a more in-depth presentation on this topic for the **Gazi Pharma Symposium Series** in Turkey. This topic continues to be of importance both during the pandemic and as programs consider how they will proceed after the pandemic.



Strategic Planning

This past year, ACPE engaged in strategic planning. We reached out to our various constituencies via a survey to obtain their thoughts about ACPE and its future. Many important points were raised, and the results were fully discussed during the strategic planning process as we worked to complete the new plan. In July 2021, the ACPE Board of Directors approved the new strategic plan for ACPE. Staff members are currently developing an action plan with an implementation timeline.

ACPE Standards Revision process continues

The ACPE Standards Revision process as outlined in the last edition of the *ACPE Update* continues. ACPE has received

numerous comments from the survey tool located on our website at www.acpe-accredit.org. The survey will continue to be open until January 1, 2022, so there is still time to submit comments. To date, ACPE has held 2 town hall meetings to garner additional input on Standards Revision. In July, a town hall meeting was held at the AACP Annual Meeting, and over 300 attendees participated in the session. Many comments were gathered from that session. In September, ACPE staff and board members met with the APhA Board of Trustees to obtain their feedback, as well. ACPE will be meeting with represen-



tatives from a variety of additional pharmacy organizations to gather further feedback related to Standards revision.

ACPE participates

Since the last *ACPE Update*, I have participated in several meetings providing information about ACPE activities. In May, the three NABP Board appointees and I met with the NABP Executive Committee. We had a very good discussion with the NABP leadership about a variety of topics. In July, the three AACP Board appointees

and I met with the AACP Board of Directors. We were asked to address the following topics:

- Update on compliance by standards
- Standards revision timeline and input opportunities
- Salient outcomes of June ACPE Board meeting
- ACPE Bylaws Changes/2022–2025 director selection
- CPD Provider modifications

We answered questions and had some good discussions with the AACP Board members. I also gave a presentation to the general AACP membership and then held a listening session related to Standards 2025. The slides for that presentation are located on the ACPE website at: www.acpe-accredit.org/communications under the “presentations” tab. We were also given the opportunity by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) to talk about our Standards revision with the State Boards of Pharmacy executives. President Kirtley attended this session, as did several ACPE staff members.

Finally, the APhA-ACPE Board appointees and I met with the APhA Board of Trustees in September. Background information on ACPE activities was provided to the Board. The session focused on receiving feedback on Standards 2025 from the APhA Board of Trustees and staff.

We are interested in hearing from you

I continue to work to increase communication and transparency both within and outside of ACPE. As always, we are interested in the perspectives of our constituents and welcome the opportunity to engage in conversation about any topic or to answer questions. If you are not certain how to address something related to any of our divisions, our staff members stand ready to assist you. Please feel free to reach out to any of us individually or send an email to info@acpe-accredit.org, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. ■

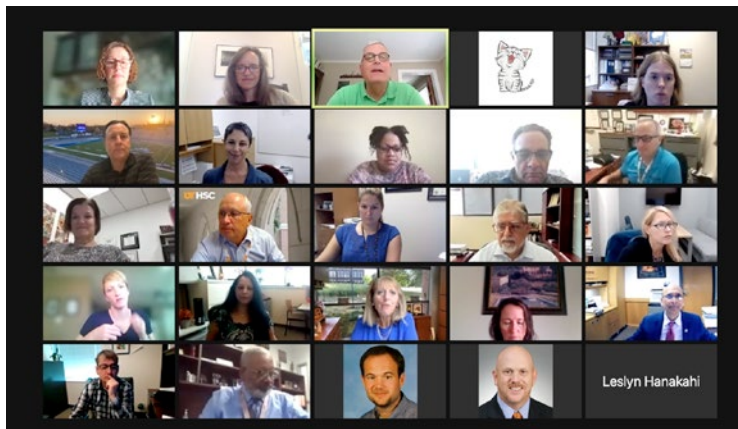
PharmD Program Accreditation

Fall visits update

Responding to continuing concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic, ACPE will conduct virtual site visits throughout the fall 2021 cycle. Forty-nine individuals from across the academy will be working with ACPE to complete the 14 evaluations scheduled during October and November 2021. All Evaluation Team Reports (ETRs) will be completed before the end of December 2021. The ACPE Board will take action on the ETRs during its January 26–28, 2022, meeting. ■

Standards revision update

A reminder that the **Call for Comments** period for ACPE's Standards Revision remains open through 2021. To ensure that your thoughts on changes in ACPE's accreditation standards for the Doctor of Pharmacy accreditation are considered by ACPE, a survey has been developed to capture comments and feedback: *Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education – Setting the standard in pharmacy education* ([acpe-accredit.org](https://www.acpe-accredit.org)). As previously announced, 2024 is the target release for the draft of the new standards, to be known as "Standards 2025," that will be effective July 1, 2025. To date, 90 responses from both individuals and groups have been received. If you haven't yet submitted your comments, please do so in the coming weeks. ■



Workshop dates

In August 2021, ACPE staff hosted two identical virtual self-study workshops for Dean and Self-study Chairs. Seventy-three participants from 30 colleges and schools of pharmacy attended. The workshop is intended to assist programs in launching and conducting a successful process of self-reflection on how the program complies with ACPE's accreditation standards. ACPE offers this workshop each August for those programs beginning their self-study. The workshop includes a review of the expectations for self-studies, an introduction to the AAMS

electronic self-study system, the scoring methodology used by both colleges and schools and the on-site evaluators and highlights the necessary appendices and other documents that should be included in the report or made available to the on-site team. ■

By the numbers:

138 PharmD Programs hold full Accredited Status

- **1 PharmD Program is Accredited with Probation Status**

2 PharmD Programs hold Candidate Status

1 PharmD Programs hold PreCandidate Status

ACPE staff and site team members have been busy with 2021 accreditation visits conducting a total of **36 reviews this year with 4 focused reviews and 10 comprehensive reviews scheduled for the Fall.**

PharmD Program Accreditation

HPAC

ACPE remains an active participant in the Health Professions Accreditors Collaborative (HPAC). HPAC's initial focus centered on advancing interprofessional education. HPAC recently expanded its focus to explore and advance Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). Advancing the DEI initiative was initiated through a group discussion held on Zoom with HPAC members in December 2020. The discussion action was to develop a survey to learn the extent of DEI content within the current standards of HPAC members. Mary Kiersma, ACPE's Associate Director for Professional Degree Program Accreditation, compiled the survey results and reported the findings during a Conversation Café at the October 5, 2021, NEXUS meeting of the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education. Among the key findings are the following:



- Twelve of the 24 responding agencies have a dedicated standard for DEI.
- The majority of accrediting agencies have incorporated cultural competence and diversity into their standards and guidelines.
- Regarding plans for further development of standards and guidelines related to health equity and disparities, 18 agencies either have released a statement, are in the process of discussion and review, or have plans to incorporate DEI into their strategic plans. ■

Update on DEI Task Force

ACPE's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force received permission from the ACPE Board to survey all programs in order to gain insights into the extent of DEI focus and initiatives across pharmacy colleges and schools. For ease of capturing this information, colleges and schools were asked to respond to the following questions.

- What steps, if any, has your program taken to advance DEI at your college or school of pharmacy?
- Has your university issued a formal statement on DEI?
- Has your program identified any best practices to advance DEI that it would like to share?

To date, 123 programs have responded, and follow-up reminders were sent to the 19 programs that have not yet responded.

The Task Force recommended, and the full Board concurred, that the current Standards 2016 should not be amended to strengthen DEI content. Rather, the ACPE Board agreed that the topic could be thoroughly addressed during the standards-revision process now underway, which will lead to the projected new standards, Standards 2025, to be released during 2024.

ACPE's new strategic plan includes a thorough review and modification of site-team materials to assist evaluators in exploring DEI during comprehensive and focused evaluations. ACPE staff will be advancing this strategic initiative during the coming months. ■



Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

CPE and CPD all in one place



Today, as more pharmacists are obtaining licensure in multiple states, licensees are challenged with keeping track of varying state rules and regulations, CPE requirements, and CPE deadlines. Since its launch in 2011, CPE Monitor® has been helping pharmacists ensure licensure compliance by enabling them to track their Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)-accredited continuing pharmacy education (CPE) units. Provided through the collaborative efforts of NABP, ACPE, and ACPE-accredited providers, the CPE Monitor system transmits verified ACPE data to licensees' e-Profiles for easy viewing and tracking.

To help pharmacists address these and future compliance challenges, NABP partnered with ACPE to develop CPE Monitor Plus, an enhanced, secure, subscription-based service for CPE Monitor. Launched in April 2018, the service comprises advanced features that enable pharmacists to perform a variety of tasks, such as uploading and applying non-ACPE CPE courses and certificates to relevant state licenses, receiving emails when CPE cycle deadlines are approaching, generating simplified, automated reports, and it provides access to ACPE's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Platform (see table below).

	CPE Monitor	CPE Monitor Plus
	Free	Minimal charge per year
CPE activity upload (ACPE providers nationwide)	✓	✓
Downloadable list of all CPE activity	✓	✓
Free mobile app	✓	✓
P.L.A.N. (Pharmacists' Learning Assistance Network) – Find CE*	✓	✓
Upload non-ACPE CPE credits		✓
Breakdown of renewal requirements (50 states & District of Columbia)**		✓
License status screen showing hours completed & hours needed		✓
Alerts for CPE cycle deadlines		✓
Detailed transcript for each license that can be submitted to the boards		✓
Continuing professional development (CPD) tools		✓

*PLAN is an ACPE search engine for finding continuing education activities by selecting the type of activity (knowledge, application or certificate programs), choosing an activity format (home study or live), choosing the topic designator (01-08), selecting activity dates and/or locations, and identifying CE activities by a specific organization.

**CPE details and requirements are not currently available for plus plan users for the jurisdictions of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

CPE Monitor Plus is available for an annual, renewable subscription fee, regardless of how many licenses a pharmacist has or adds at a later date. After subscribing, a pharmacist may access CPE Monitor Plus by downloading the app. The standard CPE Monitor service is still available for free and can also be accessed via the app by signing in with e-Profile login credentials. CPE Monitor users can upgrade to CPE Monitor Plus by logging into their NABP e-Profiles.

Choosing a Plan

Determine which CPE Monitor plan option is best for you. The Plus plan is for pharmacists and is available via the mobile app and desktop. The standard plan is still free for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians and is available via the app or desktop by signing in with NABP e-Profile login credentials.

By upgrading to the CPE Monitor Plus plan, pharmacists can access enhanced features and can easily manage licensing requirements no matter how many licenses you have now or may add in the future, and the system can keep track of the state requirements for licensure.

Improving Your Experience

For CPE Monitor to work seamlessly, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must satisfy the requirements for credit in a timely manner. ACPE-accredited providers have up to sixty (60) days to award CE credit via CPE Monitor. ACPE-accredited providers are encouraged to inform pharmacists and pharmacy technicians of the following:

Pharmacists – If you are a Plus plan user, you must update your profile to include at least one currently active pharmacist license. If your license has been expired for two years or more, it cannot be managed through the CPE Monitor Plus plan.

Pharmacy Technicians – If you are Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB)-certified, you must create an NABP e-Profile to recertify. You can start this process by creating a login (dashboard.nabp.pharmacy/#/login) and setting up your individual e-Profile to include your PTCB certification and state registration numbers. This should be completed prior to engaging in continuing education activities. ■

By upgrading to the CPE Monitor Plus plan, pharmacists can access enhanced features and can easily manage licensing requirements no matter how many licenses you have now or may add in the future ...

RESOURCES

- Visit ACPE's website for a directory of accredited CPE providers (www.acpe-accredit.org/accredited-providers-by-org-name/) for questions related to CE activities and the absence of CE credit in the learner's e-Profile.
- Contact cpemonitor@acpe-accredit.org if ACPE-accredited providers have an issue or question related to uploading or awarding CE credit.
- For questions about learners' access and information in the NABP e-Profile, contact NABP (help@nabp.pharmacy).
- Contact PTCB (www.ptcb.org/contact) for questions about technician certification or for information on the certified pharmacy technician certification process and the CE requirements.
- Check your board of pharmacy website (nabp.pharmacy/about/boards-of-pharmacy/) for state-specific CPE requirements.

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

Practice Gap and Opportunity for ACPE-Accredited Providers



Pharmacists Authorized to Order and Administer COVID-19 Therapeutics under PREP Act Declaration

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced an amendment to the COVID-19 Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act declaration to allow licensed pharmacists to order and administer select COVID-19 therapeutics. Specifically, the amendment includes coverage of licensed pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy interns when administering COVID-19 monoclonal antibody therapeutics orally, through intramuscular injection, or through subcutaneous injection.

HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra amended section V of the Declaration to add subsection (i) to expand the scope of authority for licensed pharmacists to order and administer and qualified pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns to administer COVID-19 therapeutics orally, intramuscularly, or subcutaneously as authorized, approved, or licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Accordingly, subsection V(i) authorizes:

(i) A state-licensed pharmacist who orders and administers, and pharmacy interns and qualified pharmacy technicians who administer (if the pharmacy intern or technician acts under the supervision of such pharmacist and the pharmacy intern or technician is licensed or registered by his or her State board of pharmacy) FDA authorized, approved, or licensed COVID-19 therapeutics. Such state-licensed pharmacists and state-licensed or -registered interns or technicians under their supervision are qualified persons only if the following requirements are met:

- i. The COVID-19 therapeutic must be authorized, approved, or licensed by the FDA;
- ii. In the case of a licensed pharmacist ordering a COVID-19 therapeutic, the therapeutic must be ordered for oral, intramuscular, or subcutaneous administration and in accordance with the FDA approval, authorization, or licensing.

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

iii. In the case of licensed pharmacists, qualified pharmacy technicians, and licensed or registered pharmacy interns administering the COVID-19 therapeutic, the therapeutic must be administered orally, intramuscularly, or subcutaneously in accordance with the FDA approval, authorization, or licensing.

iv. In the case of qualified pharmacy technicians, the supervising pharmacist must be readily and immediately available to the qualified pharmacy technician.

v. In the case of COVID-19 therapeutics administered through intramuscular or subcutaneous injections, the licensed pharmacist, licensed or registered pharmacy intern, and qualified pharmacy technician must complete a practical training program that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of COVID-19 therapeutics, the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to COVID-19 therapeutics, and any additional training required in the FDA approval, authorization, or licensing.

vi. The licensed pharmacist, licensed or registered pharmacy intern, and qualified pharmacy technician must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

vii. The licensed pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers COVID-19 therapeutics, including informing the patient's primary-care provider when available and complying with requirements with respect to reporting adverse events.

viii. The licensed pharmacist, the licensed or registered pharmacy intern, and the qualified pharmacy technician must comply with any applicable requirements (or conditions of use) that apply to the administration of COVID-19 therapeutics.

**Pharmacists,
Pharmacy Technicians,
and Pharmacy Interns
are encouraged
to review the
HHS guidance.**



ACPE-Accredited Providers of Continuing Education are encouraged to review the HHS guidance and to seek legal advice on compliance and on representation to attendees if necessary. Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, and Pharmacy Interns are encouraged to review the HHS guidance and to seek regulatory advice on compliance if necessary. Information and a list of relevant CE activities may be found on the ACPE website: www.acpe-accredit.org/continuing-education-provider-accreditation/#tab-CENewsroom

Please access the HHS guidance document (www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/09/14/2021-19790/ninth-amendment-to-declaration-under-the-public-readiness-and-emergency-preparedness-act-for-medical) for additional details. ■

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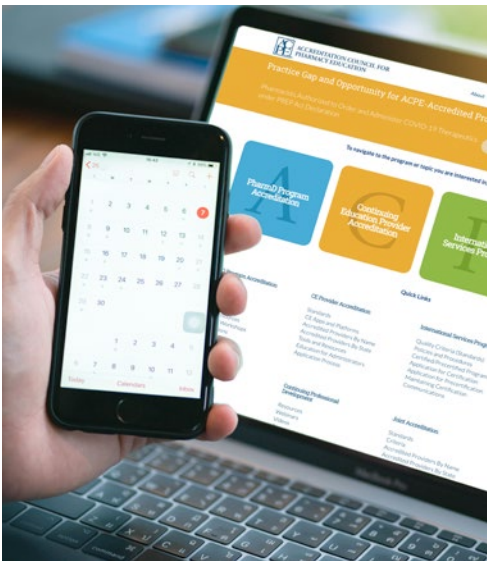
Educational Opportunities for CPE Administrators

October 2021

CPE Providers joined ACPE staff on Wednesday, October 6, to discuss the transition and implementation of the **Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education** (Standard 5), effective January 1, 2022.

Self-assessment report preparation webinar for providers will be scheduled for spring 2022. A self-assessment report preparation webinar occurred on October 12th for providers scheduled for spring 2022 comprehensive review.

End of November: Continuing the CPE Monitor series of 2021 Virtual Webinars, Steve Janis and Courtney Maxfield will describe how to input a **Certificate Program** in ACPE's activity database, Provider Web Tool. Awarding CE credit and completion of a Certificate Program will also be described. Stay tuned for date and registration information.



November/December 2021

Effective with the spring 2022 comprehensive review cycle, administrators will submit their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) worksheets and activity log as evidence of Section V, Policy 1.0, CPE Administrator. Administrators and other professional CE staff will conduct an annual self-assessment of competencies to identify areas for continued development and growth. Professional development activities will be documented in an activity log, noting competency areas that have been addressed. Jennifer Baumgartner will conduct a virtual meeting to discuss specific details of the **CPD process for CPE Administrators** and guidance and resources to support Administrators in their professional development. Details will be forthcoming.

January 2022

Orientation and training for **CPE field reviewers**. Those interested in volunteering as field reviewers for the comprehensive review process may complete the field reviewer interest form (acpe-accredit.formstack.com/forms/field_reviewer_interest_form).

Spring 2022

ACPE CE staff will be conducting a **CPE Administrator Workshop** in March/April 2022. Stay tuned for registration information.

ACPE CPE Administrator On-Demand Webinars: ACPE is pleased to offer **updated on-demand webinars on ACPE Standards for Continuing Pharmacy Education**. The ACPE webinars on the Continuing Pharmacy Education Standards are designed to provide a working knowledge of the ACPE accreditation process as it relates to continuing pharmacy education. On-demand webinars may be purchased by credit card. All webinar fees are nonrefundable. Please go to ACPE's website (www.acpe-accredit.org/continuing-education-provider-accreditation/) to browse our educational offerings today! ■

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

UPDATE: Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education

After the spring 2021 accreditation cycle, we have 130 Joint Accredited Providers! In addition, we are delighted to acknowledge four jointly accredited providers that achieved commendation in the July 2021 cohort including:

- **Cleveland Clinic Center for Continuing Education**
www.clevelandclinicmeded.com
- **Medical Learning Institute, Inc.**
mlicme.org/fe
- **PRIME Education**
primece.com
- **University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Office of Continuing Education**
ce.uams.edu



These providers are the first to receive Joint Accreditation with Commendation under the new Menu of Criteria for Joint Accreditation with Commendation (www.jointaccreditation.org/commendation). ***Congratulations on your achievement!*** ■

Joint Accreditation Leadership Summit

Joint Accreditation hosted the 7th Annual Leadership Summit – **The Future of Education: Connecting & Collaborating** – virtually on September 30 and October 1, 2021, for organizations that are currently jointly accredited or that have an approved preapplication and are in the process of applying for joint accreditation. Approximately 150 participants were engaged.

The goal of this annual summit was to bring together accredited providers as leaders of interprofessional education to explore the evolution of Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) and to embrace new innovative approaches for the future. Conversations included:

- addressing awareness of DEI through IPCE, as well as strategies for incorporating DEI principals in your IPCE Program
- the successes and failures of trying new approaches in education
- transitioning to the new Standards for Integrity and Independence
- case studies in achieving Commendation in Joint Accreditation ■



Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

A pilot to study implementation of the new CPD criteria will launch in fall 2021 with a group of ACPE-accredited CPE providers.

CPD Provider Criteria

Following ACPE Board of Director approval to release and seek feedback on draft CPD Provider criteria, a call for stakeholder comments was open from March 1 to March 31, 2021. Sixty-three respondents answered the survey with 95% providing feedback on eligibility, 71% on the criteria, and 68% on a CPD credit model.

Academia and patient care were the two highest-represented areas of the profession (Table 1), comprising 62% of respondents with 78% representing ACPE-accredited providers. Thirty-eight percent reported having experience CPD with an additional 49% indicating an awareness of the CPD concept. (Table 2)

Table 1

Academia	24 (38%)
Patient Care	15 (24%)
Educational Company	9 (14%)
Professional Association	5 (8%)
Non-Profit Organization	4 (6%)
Regulatory	3 (5%)
Other (please specify)	3 (5%): Certification Agency, Industry, Hospital

Table 2

Very Experienced – have taught/applied CPD	10 (16%)
Experienced – have attended training and/or studied CPD approach	14 (22%)
Aware – know the term, key concepts and components	31 (49%)
Limited – previously heard of the term or concept	8 (13%)
None – unaware of CPD before this survey	0 (0%)

Key Findings:

- Forty-five respondents (75%) found the eligibility criteria for CPD Provider accreditation clear and appropriate.
- More than 85% of the respondents recommended no or minor revisions to the draft criteria, but many had suggestions for greater clarity of terms and concepts and had suggestions for guidance on operationalizing criteria. (Table 3)
- The majority of respondents agreed on the clarity (70%) and relevance (63%) of CPD credit with comments indicating a need for consideration of how CPD credit will be awarded and used in the existing system of time-based credit.
- The majority of respondents indicated the proposed program to be very or extremely valuable for practitioner development/competency (68%), professional practice (62%), patient care/population health (65%), and organizational/system outcomes (57%). (Figure 1)
- 54% of respondents indicated the proposed program to be very or extremely relevant to their organization's mission.

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

Table 3

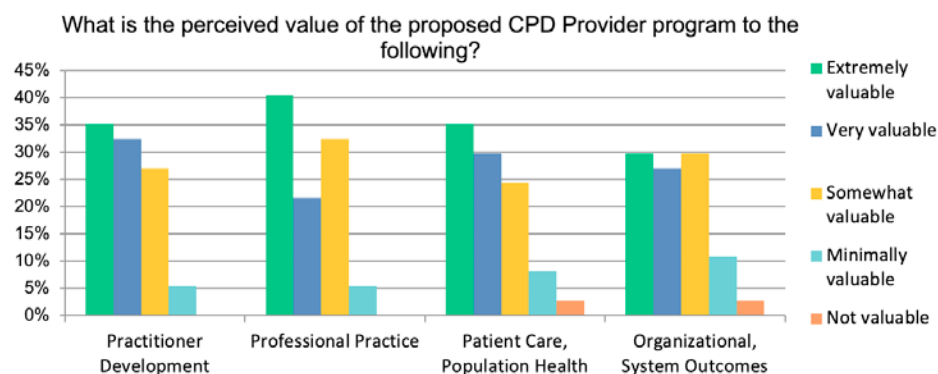
	Systematic Planning	CPD Program Design	Assessment of Learner CPD	Evaluation of Program Effectiveness
No changes are recommended	30 (67%)	35 (78%)	35 (78%)	34 (76%)
Minor revisions are recommended	10 (22%)	5 (11%)	3 (7%)	5 (11%)
Major revisions are recommended	5 (11%)	5 (11%)	7 (15%)	6 (13%)

Overall, survey results indicate that an accredited CPD provider program would be valuable and relevant and that the general construct of the proposed CPD criteria is acceptable. Drawing from survey results, the CPD Committee of ACPE's CPE Commission incorporated minor revisions and additional guidance into the criteria, which received Board approval at the June 2021 meeting.

A pilot to study implementation of the new CPD criteria will launch in fall 2021 with a group of ACPE-accredited CPE providers. The objectives of the pilot are to gain experience and gather feedback to inform potential changes to the criteria, development of associated accreditation processes, and integration of a CPD credit model.

The CPD Provider program criteria can be found on the ACPE website. (www.acpe-accredit.org/continuing-professional-development/#tab-Resources) ■

Figure 1



CPD for CPE Administrators

In an effort to integrate procedures that are consistent with CPE Policies, Section V, Policy 1.0 (CPE Administrator), whereby administrators and other professional staff maintain and enhance their professional development, at its June 2021 meeting, the ACPE Board of Directors approved a process to support Administrator CPD.

Administrators and other professional CE staff will:

- Conduct annual self-assessments of competencies to identify areas for continued development and growth
- Document professional development activities in an activity log and note the competency areas being addressed
- Engage in an end-of-year reflection to assess the effectiveness and outcomes of professional development goals

Effective with the spring 2022 comprehensive review cycle, administrators will submit their CPD worksheets and activity logs as evidence of Section V, Policy 1.0. Additional information is on the ACPE website. (www.acpe-accredit.org/continuing-education-provider-accreditation/#tab-ToolsandResources) ■



Technology and Tools Corner

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to providing insight into tools and technology available to ACPE constituents. The goal is to provide tools and tips to the user community, as well as provide knowledge and direction on how to best use the technology available to us.

This issue focuses on a few new features to be released in the upcoming months for the **Provider Web Tool (PWT)**. This tool is used by ACPE-accredited providers for uniquely identifying CE Activities and for capturing key elements, including objectives, types of activities, logistics, schedules and contact hours.

The **ACPE Universal Activity Number (UAN)** is a unique identifier assigned to each CPE activity that has been developed and offered by an ACPE-accredited provider. The UAN is composed of multiple elements that indicate specific information about the nature of the activity, such as the provider, activity format, and target audience. One component of the UAN is the topic designator, which helps classify the purpose of an activity in addressing a specific area of pharmacy practice.

Topic Designator

The Topic Designator is the last 2 digits of the Universal Activity Number and should be designated as follows:

- 01: Disease State Management/Drug Therapy** - activities that address drugs, drug therapy, and/or disease states.
- 02: AIDS Therapy** - activities that address therapeutic, legal, social, ethical, or psychological issues related to the understanding and treatment of patients with HIV/AIDS.
- 03: Law Related to Pharmacy Practice** - activities that address federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations affecting the practice of pharmacy.
- 04: Pharmacy Administration** - activities that address topics relevant to the practice of pharmacy that include the economic, legal, social, administrative and managerial aspects of pharmacy practice and health care.
- 05: Patient Safety** - activities that address topics relevant to the prevention of healthcare errors and the elimination or mitigation of patient injury caused by healthcare errors.
- 06: Immunizations** - activities related to the provision of immunizations, i.e., recommend immunization schedules, administration procedures, proper storage and disposal, and record keeping. This also includes review for appropriateness or contraindication and identifying and reporting adverse drug events and providing necessary first aid.
- 07: Compounding** - activities related to sterile, nonsterile, and hazardous drug compounding for humans and animals. This includes best practices and USP quality assurance standards, environmental testing and control, record keeping, error detection and reporting, and continuous quality improvement processes.
- 08: Pain Management** - activities that address any component regarding the treatment and management of pain, including the prescribing, distribution and use of opioid medications, and/or the risks, symptoms, and treatment of opioid misuse/addiction.

Additional Topic Areas - activities related to topics relevant to the practice of pharmacy not included in the classifications of the topic designators 01-08.

Additional Topic Areas

During the next quarter, ACPE will release two modifications to the topic designator.

- 1. Topic Designator 04: Pharmacy Administration** – Formerly known as “General Pharmacy.” Both the name and the definition will be modified for clarification of purpose. This topic designator should be used when economic, legal, social, administrative, or managerial aspects of pharmacy are addressed.
- 2. Topic Designator: Additional Topic Areas** – This is a new topic designator. Its intent is to capture any activities covering topics that relate to the practice of pharmacy but that do not fit into any of the first eight topic designator categories (01 – 08).

Another concept being introduced this fall is a process for providers to identify activities that are intended to meet specific relicensure or certification requirements. In the Provider Web Tool, ACPE will add a new tab titled “CE Requirements.” The intent of this new tab is to capture whether an activity was specifically designed to meet either a certification board requirement (such as those defined by BPS or PTCB) or a state-specific CE requirement.

General
Learning Objectives
Keywords
CE Requirements
Grant Support
Home Study Format

In order to assist in the identification of specific CE Activities required for re-licensure or re-certification by Pharmacists or Pharmacy Technicians, please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

1. Is this activity designed to meet specific board certification requirement? No Yes Not Sure

**** Please choose one or more requirements ****

Pharmacists	Pharmacy Technicians
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Ambulatory Care Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB (CPhT)
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Cardiology Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Certified Compounded Sterile Preparation Technician (CSPT)
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Compounded Sterile Preparations Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Advanced Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT-Adv)
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Critical Care Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Billing and Reimbursement Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Emergency Medicine Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Controlled Substances Diversion Prevention Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Geriatric Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Hazardous Drug Management Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Infectious Diseases Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Immunization Administration Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Nuclear Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Medication History Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Nutrition Support Pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/> PTCB: Technician Product Verification Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Oncology Pharmacy	
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Pediatric Pharmacy	
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Pharmacotherapy	
<input type="checkbox"/> BPS: Psychiatric Pharmacy	

2. Is this activity designed to meet a specific state regulatory requirement? No Yes Not Sure

**** Please choose one or more states ****

<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska	<input type="checkbox"/> Alabama	<input type="checkbox"/> All States	<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Arizona	<input type="checkbox"/> California
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado	<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/> D. C.	<input type="checkbox"/> Delaware	<input type="checkbox"/> Florida	<input type="checkbox"/> Georgia
<input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii	<input type="checkbox"/> Iowa	<input type="checkbox"/> Idaho	<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> International
<input type="checkbox"/> Kansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky	<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland	<input type="checkbox"/> Maine
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> Missouri	<input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi	<input type="checkbox"/> Montana	<input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina
<input type="checkbox"/> North Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska	<input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire	<input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> Nevada
<input type="checkbox"/> New York	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/> Oklahoma	<input type="checkbox"/> Oregon	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania	<input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rico
<input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island	<input type="checkbox"/> South Carolina	<input type="checkbox"/> South Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee	<input type="checkbox"/> Texas	<input type="checkbox"/> Utah
<input type="checkbox"/> Virginia	<input type="checkbox"/> Virgin Islands	<input type="checkbox"/> Vermont	<input type="checkbox"/> Washington	<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin	<input type="checkbox"/> West Virginia
<input type="checkbox"/> Wyoming					

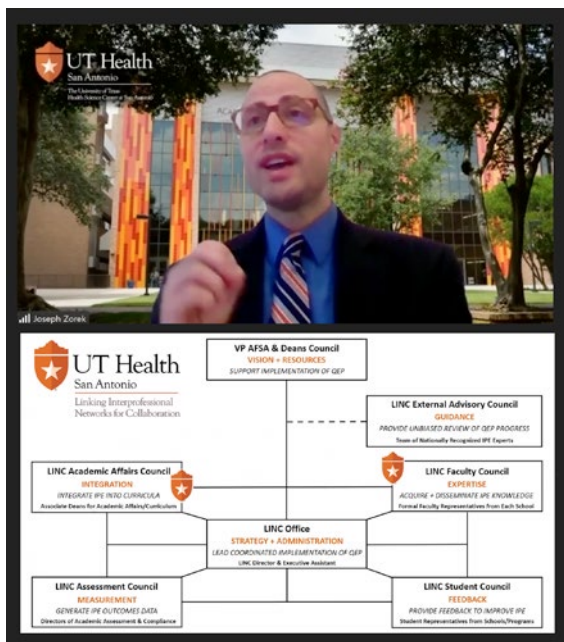
A provider would only make these selections if they can confirm that the activity is designed to meet the requirements as defined by either the certification body or a state board of pharmacy. Selections of “No” and “Not Sure” are available for when the activity is not designed to meet a requirement or when the provider is not sure. No further action or additional information will be needed.

Providers—please make note of these upcoming changes when designing future ACPE Accredited CE activities. ■

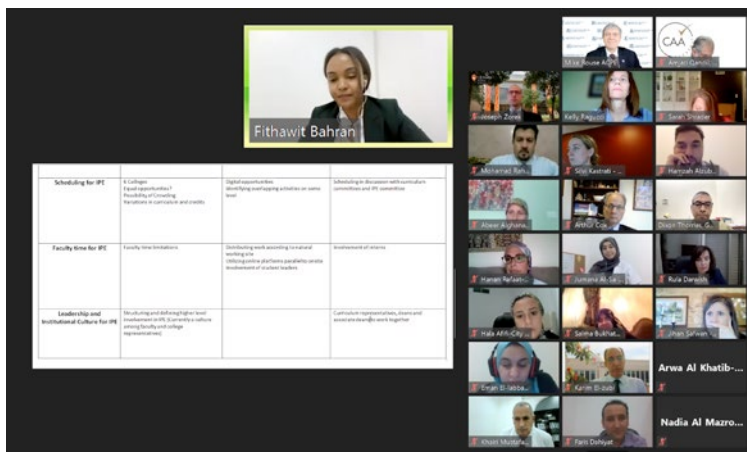
International Services Program

Sixth Regional Faculty Development Workshop

In collaboration with its workshop partners, Al Ain University (host institution in UAE), the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, the Commission for Academic Accreditation (UAE), and ACPE's International Services Program (ISP) organized the 6th Regional Faculty Development Workshop on “Best Practices for Planning and Evaluation of Inter-Professional Education – Part 2,” May 23–25, 2021. The workshop presenters were US IPE experts Professor Joseph Zorek and Professor Sarah Shrader. The event included presentations from schools in the region and the USA on their experiences with the implementation of IPE and included very successful “team times” conducted using breakout rooms. The workshop was attended by 119 participants from 28 schools and four hospitals, from 12 countries. Several schools invited members of other health professions, which made the event truly interprofessional. ■



One of Professor Joseph Zorek's presentations



Dr. Fithawit Bahrn, Gulf Medical University, presenting

ISP Informational Webinar

Staff of ACPE's International Services Program hosted an informational webinar on May 20, 2021. The goal of the webinar was to inform various stakeholders of the purpose, activities, and initiatives of ACPE and its International Services Program. The webinar was attended by 39 participants from 11 countries. ■



International Services Program

ACPE International Commission (IC)

On May 17–18, 2021, the members of the ACPE International Commission met virtually (see *photo below*) to discuss the activities and operations of ISP and made several recommendations to the ACPE Board of Directors. The Commission met briefly with guests from the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA, UAE), including the Executive Director, Professor Mohamed Baniyas. Professor Amjad Qandil, CAA Commissioner, attended the meeting as an Observer, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between CAA and ACPE, which was recently renewed. ■

From left to right/top to bottom:



Shailendra Saraf (India), Silvi Kastrati (International Coordinator, ACPE, USA), Amjad Qandil (Commissioner and Higher Education Expert, Commission for Academic Accreditation, UAE), Michael J. Rouse (Director, International Services, ACPE, USA), Sherief Khalifa (UAE), Jenelle Sobotka (USA), Winnie Landis (Board Liaison to IC, USA), Stephen Arkle (Commissioner, Commission for Academic Accreditation, UAE), Yousif Asiri (Saudi Arabia, not pictured), Michael Katz (Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, USA), Donald Letendre (USA), Cindy Irani (ACPE Legal Counsel, USA), Mohamed Yousif Baniyas (Executive Director, Commission for Academic Accreditation, UAE), Jannet M. Carmichael (Chair, USA), Dawn Zarembski (Assistant Director, Accreditation, ACPE, USA), Jan Engle (Executive Director, ACPE, USA), and Abeer Alghana-neem (USA, not pictured).

Guests from Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz University (PSAU), Saudi Arabia

On July 6, 2021, ACPE hosted Drs. Ahmed Sulaiman Ahmed Alalaiwe (Dean of College of Pharmacy) and Khalid Alharthy (Vice Dean of College of Pharmacy for Graduate Studies and Quality Affairs) at the ACPE office in Chicago, Illinois. During the meeting, ACPE presented the Certification certificate to the PSAU representatives. ■



Khalid Alharthy, Ahmed Sulaiman Ahmed Alalaiwe, Jan Engle and Michael Rouse

International Services Program

Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ACPE and Knowledge E



To continue their very successful collaboration, ACPE and Knowledge E (based in UAE) renewed their MOU effective July 13, 2021. ACPE and Knowledge E are continuing the collaboration with the Egyptian Knowledge Bank to provide workshops to faculties of pharmacy in Egypt. A second cohort of faculties is completing the same workshops that were offered in 2020, and a group of three faculties are completing an advanced series of workshops, which will support their efforts to achieve international accreditation. The full announcement on the MOU renewal can be accessed via the following link: [knowledgee.com/news/renewal-of-the-memorandum-of-understanding-between-knowledge-e-and-the-accreditation-council-for-pharmacy-education-signed-for-three-years](https://www.knowledgee.com/news/renewal-of-the-memorandum-of-understanding-between-knowledge-e-and-the-accreditation-council-for-pharmacy-education-signed-for-three-years) ■



Adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ACPE and PCI

ACPE is pleased to announce the adoption of an MOU with the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI). The MOU will enable both organizations to exchange information to advance quality assurance in pharmacy education and the practice of pharmacy in the USA and in India. ■

Recognition of ACPE Certification following Joint CAA–ACPE Evaluation Visit

From February 28 to March 3, 2021, ACPE and the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) conducted their first joint evaluation of a pharmacy degree program in the UAE. Taking into consideration the ACPE Board's June 2021 action to continue certification of the program and the program meeting additional CAA requirements, the CAA decided to renew the accreditation of the program for six years. This marked the first official recognition of an ACPE certification action by a national accreditation agency in another country. ■



International Services Program

Fall 2021 Certification Cycle

Due to the travel restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 global pandemic, ISP will conduct the following fall 2021 evaluation visits virtually, using the Zoom platform:

- **Comprehensive Evaluations for Initial Certification:**
 - Al-Ahliyya Amman University (AAU), Faculty of Pharmacy, Amman, Jordan
 - Middle East University (MEU), Faculty of Pharmacy, Amman, Jordan
 - Dubai Pharmacy College for Girls (DPCG), Dubai, UAE
 - Ras Al Khaimah (RAK) Medical and Health Sciences University, College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Ras Al Khaimah, UAE
- **Focused Evaluation for Continued Precertification:**
 - JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research Mauritius (JSSAHERM), School of Pharmacy, Bonne Terre, Vacoas, Mauritius
- **Two-Year Post-Certification-Focused Visits:**
 - Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan, Faculty of Pharmacy, Amman, Jordan
 - Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University, College of Pharmacy, Al-Kharj, Saudi Arabia ■



Current and Future Activities

- Mike Rouse, Director of ISP, presented “Necessary competencies for digital education and its evaluation to ensure academic quality” during the **Pan American Conference on Pharmaceutical Education** on September 14, 2021.
- Rouse presented “Learning for IMPACT” during the **Children’s Cancer Hospital Foundation 57357 World Pharmacists Day 2021 Conference** on September 25, 2021.
- A virtual meeting of the **International Services Program Advisory Group (ISPAG)** was held on October 21, 2021. Normally, ISPAG meets around the time of the International Pharmaceutical Federation Conference but was unable to meet this year due to the cancellation of the FIP conference. The group discussed recent initiatives and future projects of ISP.
- In collaboration with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP, USA), Al Ain University (UAE), Ministry of Education (UAE), and Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA, UAE), ISP will host a webinar series titled “**Curricular Assessment in a Changing Academic Environment.**” The webinar series will be presented by Dr. Melissa S. Medina, Professor and Associate Dean of Assessment and Evaluation, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, College of Pharmacy. The virtual webinars are scheduled on October 20, October 27, and November 3, 2021. ■

Wall of Honor

Congratulations to our board member, staff member, and former staff member who have received honors or awards since our last newsletter.



Marie Chisholm-Burns



Peter Vlases



Jennifer Baumgartner

Dr. Marie Chisholm-Burns, ACPE Board member, was elected as a Councilor-at-Large to the American Society of Transplantation! Dr. Chisholm-Burns is the only pharmacist serving on the AST Board of Directors.

Congratulations to **Dr. Peter Vlases, ACPE Executive Director Emeritus** on his selection as the recipient of Honorary Membership by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists!

Jennifer Baumgartner and the Alliance for Integrated Medication Management (AIMM)/University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy received the AACP 2021 Innovations in Continuing Professional Development Award!



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