



APhA

AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION

2021 House of Delegates

Report of the Policy Reference Committee

- ❖ Multi-State Practice of Pharmacy
- ❖ Continuity of Care and the Role Pharmacists During Public Health and Other Emergencies

Committee Members

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This report is disseminated for consideration by the APhA House of Delegates but does not represent the position of the Association. Only those statements adopted by the House are official Association policy.

The APhA House of Delegates Policy Reference Committee met on February 23 and March 1 to review the [2020-2021 APhA Policy Committee Report](#), feedback from members and leaders, and comments from two open hearing webinars and presents the following report:

Topic #1 – Multi-State Practice of Pharmacy

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends **ADOPTING** the following statement as **WRITTEN**.

Statement 1: APhA affirms that pharmacists are trained to provide patient care and have the ability to address patient needs, regardless of geographic location.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends **ADOPTING** the following statement as **WRITTEN**.

Statement 2: APhA advocates for the continued development of uniform laws and regulations that facilitate pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians' timely ability to practice in multiple states to meet practice, and patient care needs.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends **ADOPTING** the following statement as **AMENDED**.

Statement 3: APhA supports individual pharmacists' and student pharmacists' authority to provide patient care services across state lines whether in person or remotely **utilizing appropriate telecommunication or other telehealth technologies in accordance with harmonized state pharmacy practice acts and regulations**.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends **ADOPTING** the following statement as **AMENDED**.

Statement 4: APhA supports consistent and efficient centralized processes across all states for obtaining and maintaining pharmacist, pharmacy intern, ~~or~~ **and** pharmacy technician licensure and/or registration.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends **ADOPTING** the following statement as **WRITTEN**.

Statement 5: APhA urges state boards of pharmacy to reduce administratively and financially burdensome requirements for licensure while continuing to uphold patient safety.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as WRITTEN.

Statement 6: APhA encourages the evaluation of current law exam requirements for obtaining and maintaining initial state licensure, as well as licensure in additional states, to enhance uniformity and reduce duplicative requirements.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as AMENDED.

Statement 7: APhA urges state boards of pharmacy and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) to involve a member of the board of pharmacy and a practicing pharmacist in the review and updating of state jurisprudence licensing exam questions.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as WRITTEN.

Statement 8: APhA calls for development of profession-wide consensus on licensing requirements for pharmacists and pharmacy personnel to support contemporary pharmacy practice.

Topic #2 – Continuity of Care and the Role of Pharmacists During Public Health and Other Emergencies

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as WRITTEN.

Statement 1: APhA asserts pharmacists, student pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy support staff are essential members of the healthcare team and should be actively engaged and supported in surveillance, mitigation, preparedness, planning, response, recovery, and countermeasure activities related to public health and other emergencies.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as WRITTEN.

Statement 2: APhA reaffirms the 2016 policy on the Role of the Pharmacist in National Defense and calls for the active and coordinated engagement of all pharmacists in public health and other emergency planning and response activities.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement

as WRITTEN.

Statement 3: APhA advocates for the timely removal of regulatory restrictions, practice limitations, and financial barriers during public health and other emergencies to meet immediate patient care needs.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as AMENDED.

Statement 4: APhA urges regulatory bodies and government agencies to recognize pharmacists' training and ability to evaluate patient needs, provide care, and appropriately refer patients during public health and other emergencies.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as AMENDED.

Statement 5: APhA advocates for pharmacists' authority to ensure patient access to care through the prescribing, dispensing, ~~prescribing~~, and administering of medications, as well as provision of other patient care services during times of public health and other emergencies.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as AMENDED.

Statement 6: APhA calls for ~~fair and equitable~~ processes to ensure that any willing and able pharmacy and pharmacy practitioner is not excluded from providing access and availability to all pharmacies and pharmacist patient care services during public health and other emergencies.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as WRITTEN.

Statement 7: APhA calls on public and private payers to establish and implement payment policies that compensate pharmacists providing patient care services, including during public health and other emergencies, within their recognized authority.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as AMENDED.

Statement 8: APhA advocates for the inclusion of pharmacists as essential members in the planning, development, and implementation of alternate care sites or delivery models during public health and other emergencies.

The APhA Policy Reference Committee recommends ADOPTING the following statement as WRITTEN.

Statement 9: APhA reaffirms the 2015 Interoperability of Communications Among Health Care Providers to Improve Quality of Care and encourages pharmacists, as members of the healthcare team, to communicate care decisions made during public health and other emergencies with other members of the healthcare team to ensure continuity of care.