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American Pharmacists Association
House of Delegates – Baltimore, MD
March 4 - 7, 2016

NEW BUSINESS

(To be submitted and introduced by Delegates only)

Introduced by: Brandi Hamilton, on behalf of the 2016 APhA House of Delegates Policy Review Committee
(Name)

10/29/2015
(Date)

APhA Policy Review Committee
(Organization)

Subject: Adequacy of Directions for Use on Prescriptions and Prescription Orders

Motion: We, the members of the Policy Review Committee, urge the 2016 House of Delegates to amend the following policy statement as follows:

2011, 1995 Adequacy of Directions for Use on Prescriptions and Prescription Orders

- 1. APhA recommends that all professions with prescriptive authority address the issue of prescribers' responsibility for specific instructions to the pharmacist and the patient in all prescription orders, including order clarification when sought by the pharmacist.
2. APhA affirms the pharmacist's responsibility, as the patient's advocate, to obtain and communicate adequate directions for use of medications.

Background:

Pharmacists take responsibility, with reasonable consistency, for endeavoring to ensure that prescriptions/medication orders are clear and accurate. The ability to complete this task is challenged, however, when prescribers dismiss the corresponding responsibility to answer the questions and/or provide the clarification sought by the pharmacist. This jeopardizes patient care and warrants a stance by APhA.

Current APhA Policy & Bylaws:

2011, 1995 Adequacy of Directions for Use on Prescriptions and Prescription Orders

- 1. APhA recommends that all professions with prescriptive authority address the issue of prescribers' responsibility for specific instructions to the pharmacist and the patient in all prescription orders.
2. APhA affirms the pharmacist's responsibility, as the patient's advocate, to obtain and communicate adequate directions for use of medications.

(Am Pharm NS35(6):37 June 1995) (Reviewed 2006)) (JAPhA NS51(4) 484; July/August 2011)

New Business Items are due to the Speaker of the House by February 3, 2016 (30 days prior to the start of the first House session). Consideration of urgent items can be presented with a suspension of the House Rules at the session where New Business will be acted upon. Please submit New Business Items to the Speaker of the House via email at hod@aphanet.org.