

Montana Pharmacy Association
Annual Convention
June 12-15, 2003
Coeur d' Alene, Idaho
2003 Resolutions(Proposed).

Resolution 2003-1

Past President. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm.D.

WHEREAS, Lee Ann Bradley has faithfully and effectively served as MPA President this year;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of MPA give its sincere thanks to Lee Ann for this dedicated service.

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-2

Convention Location. Introduced by Lee Ann Bradley, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, the the Coeur D' Alene Resort has cordially welcomed the Montana Pharmacy Association and the Tri-State Pharmacy Convention;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA appreciates the hospitality of the Coeur D' Alene Resort .

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-3

Tri-State Convention . Introduced by Lee Ann Bradley, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, the MPA participated in the Tri-State Pharmacy Convention in 2000 and 2001, and;

WHEREAS, the first Tri-State Pharmacy Convention in 2000 was a great success, and;

WHEREAS, the 2001 Tri-State Pharmacy Convention was also great success, and;

WHEREAS, MPA held its 2002 convention in Montana;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA is glad to be back, holding its 2003 Annual Convention in conjunction with the Tri-State Pharmacy Convention, Thursday, June 12 thru Sunday June 15, 2003 in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho.

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-4

APhA Delegates. Introduced by Lee Ann Bradley, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, Tim Stratton served as MPA's Delegate to the 2003 APhA Convention in New Orleans, LA.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the MPA membership extend its thanks to Tim Stratton for his efforts.

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-5

ASHP Delegates. Introduced by Lee Ann Bradley, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, Randy Kuiper and Brad Mathis served as Delegates to the 2003 ASHP Convention in San Diego, CA;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the MPA membership extend its thanks to Randy and Brad for their efforts.

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-6

4th Most Trusted Profession. Introduced by Lee Ann Bradley, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, the American consumers have voted pharmacists as the 4th most trusted profession, and;

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are still highly trusted by the American people;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA offers its congratulations to all pharmacists whose practice and activities promote this public trust.

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-7

Congratulations to the 2002-'03 University of Montana Pharmacy Graduates. Introduced by Lori Morin, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, forty-seven (12 B.S. & 35 Pharm. D.) outstanding students completed their Pharmacy education, and graduated from the University of Montana School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences on May 17, 2003;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA congratulates these students, welcomes them to the 4th most trusted profession in America, wishes them well in their pharmacy careers, and encourages their membership and participation in MPA.

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-8

Patient Counseling Competition. Introduced by Lori Morin, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, Steve Thorvilson, a P-3 U of M Student, participated in this years' Patient Counseling Competition at the American Pharmaceutical Association's Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA congratulates Steve Thorvilson and wishes him well in her career in 'America's 4th Most Trusted Profession.'

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-9

Thanks to the Pharmacy Coordinating Committee. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, since the Fall of 1998 a group of interested persons has been meeting regularly to identify issues common to all pharmacists and to recommend strategies for solutions, and;

WHEREAS, Lori Morin has ably chaired this group since its inception, and;

WHEREAS, these efforts resulted in proposals for the 57th Montana Legislative Session, and;

WHEREAS, these proposals were supported by the Board of Pharmacy and numerous other stakeholders in Montana, and;

WHEREAS, these efforts led to the introduction and passage of House Bill 279, Revise Pharmacy Practice, in the 57th Montana Legislative Session, and;

WHEREAS, the Pharmacy Coordinating Committee continued its work in 2002 on the Administrative Rules implementing collaborative pharmacy practice in Montana, and in 2003 on third party reimbursement for pharmacists' services;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA thanks Lori and all members of the Pharmacy Coordinating Committee, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MPA encourages the Pharmacy Coordinating Committee to continue its important work.

Action by Membership: PASSED.

Resolution 2003-10

MPA Affiliation with the American Society of Health- System Pharmacists (ASHP). Introduced by Sarah Miller, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, the Montana State Pharmaceutical Association and the Montana Society of Health- System Pharmacists combined to form the Montana Pharmacy Association (MPA) in 2001, and;

WHEREAS, the MPA is now an affiliated state society of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP);

BE IT RESOLVED, that the MPA membership looks forward to a long and productive relationship with ASHP.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-11

MPA Resolution on Reimbursement by Medicaid. Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph..

WHEREAS, the Medicaid program can only attain its goal of providing health care to low-income citizens of Montana if pharmacists are willing to care for patients under the terms and reimbursement levels of Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, all Montana pharmacists are underpaid by Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the number of Montana pharmacists who deny or limit Medicaid clientele because of poor reimbursement is increasing because in many instances reimbursement fails to cover costs; and

WHEREAS, all other public assistance providers (grocers with food stamps, landlords with rent subsidies, etc.) are reimbursed at prevailing market prices for their goods or services;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA will oppose any further reductions in reimbursement to pharmacists, and;.

BE IT RESOLVED, that reimbursement be based on reasonable amount for the product, plus a reasonable dispensing fee, and;

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA works with the Department of Public Health and Human Services to develop patient care programs and activities appropriate to the Medicaid program, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that MPA will work for increased funding for the Montana Medicaid program at the state and federal levels.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-12

MPA Resolution on the State and University Employees Health Plan. Introduced by Mike Bertagnolli, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, The State Employees Health Plan has reduced reimbursement to pharmacies effective January 1, 2002, and;

WHEREAS, employees were given further financial incentives to use the state's contracted mail service pharmacy, and further financial disincentives to use their hometown pharmacies, and;

WHEREAS, Montana pharmacists and pharmacies have sought nothing more than a level playing field and fair competition among and between all service providers, including those serving employees of the state of Montana, and;

WHEREAS, Montana pharmacists and pharmacies pay income and property taxes in order to fund state government operations and employees;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the position of the Montana Pharmacy Association is that there ought to be a level playing field for all pharmacy providers; and that plan members should not be financially or otherwise penalized for patronizing the pharmacy of their choice;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association communicate its position to the Governor and the State Employees Health Plan Advisory Council on a regular, ongoing basis in 2003 and 2004.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-13

MPA Resolution on Continuing Education. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, the Montana Board of Pharmacy requires five (5) hours per year of continuing education (CE) received in the group setting of each licensed R.Ph. in Montana, and;

WHEREAS, group CE offers pharmacists an opportunity to meet, learn, interact and discuss pharmacy education and issues in a collegial setting, and;

WHEREAS, Montana is a large state, which makes attendance at group CEs difficult for many pharmacists;

BE IT RESOLVED that MPA offer CE at times and places convenient for its members; and at times and places in addition to the annual convention and fall CE conference, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MPA Board of Directors schedule and present CE in accordance with this Resolution, starting in 2003.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-14

MPA Resolution on Discount RX Cards. Introduced by Greg Loushin, R.Ph.

WHEREAS, the recent proliferation of RX discount cards by insurers such as Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana, drug companies such as Novarits, and random private businesses such as Days Inn represent an administrative nightmare for pharmacies and pharmacists, and;

WHEREAS, the marketing of these cards to senior citizens and other pharmacy customers often is often confusing, and frequently contains promises that are not realized in practice, and;

WHEREAS, local Montana pharmacies routinely offer discounted prices to senior citizens and other, as well as other services including free delivery of prescriptions, and;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the stands opposed to RX discount cards, regardless of their source.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MPA communicates its position on discount RX cards to the State Insurance Commissioner, the Governor, and all candidates for the Montana Legislature, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MPA communicate its position on discount RX cards to the organizations and businesses issuing these cards on a regular and ongoing basis, and;

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-15

MPA Resolution on the Use of Tobacco Settlement Funds. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, the Montana Pharmacy Association assisted in the development and passage of C-35 in 2000, which created a permanent health care trust fund using forty percent (40%) of the Tobacco Settlement dollars, and;

WHEREAS, the Montana Pharmacy Association assisted in the development and passage of I-146 in 2002, which allocates the remaining Tobacco Settlement dollars to health care programs including Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), the Montana Comprehensive Health care Association (MCHA), and tobacco prevention and education programs, and;

WHEREAS, this effort is supported by a broad based coalition of health care associations, including the Montana Medical Association, the Montana Nurses Association, the Montana Dental Association and others, and;

WHEREAS, this coalition is composed of other public interest organizations, including the League Of Women Voters, the Montana Senior Citizens Association, the American Association of Retired Persons, and others;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association support efforts to maintain the allocation of tobacco settlement funds to health care programs and services in Montana, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MPA members become active and involved in this effort in their local communities.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-16

MPA Resolution on Safe medication Use. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are the professionals primarily responsible for safe medication use;

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are the professionals most knowledgeable of the entire medication use process;

WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine has identified medication safety as a major social issue;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association provide leadership in ensuring safe medication use in Montana;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association encourage the University of Montana School of Pharmacy to expand the curriculum so as to enhance the

training of future pharmacists in the principles of quality improvement and medication safety;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association commit sufficient resources to provide quality continuing education programs to train members in the

principles of safe medication practices;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association encourage pharmacists in all practice settings to establish performance improvement processes that measure both operational and patient outcomes related to medication safety;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association work in conjunction with the Montana Board of Pharmacy to develop rules mandating the adoption of proven practices known to improve medication safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association affirms that individual pharmacists have a professional responsibility to ensure medication safety through the use of proven interventions and best practices known to improve medication safety.

Action by Membership: PASSED .

Resolution 2003-17

MPA Resolution on Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, there is a pharmacists and pharmacy technician shortage in Montana;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association supports federal and state incentive programs for new pharmacy graduates to practice in under served areas;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association provide information and educational programming on strategies used by employers for successful recruitment and retention of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association conduct regular surveys on trends in the pharmacy workforce in Montana, including retention rates for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

Action by Membership: PASSED .

Resolution 2003-18

MPA Resolution on Pharmacists as Providers of Patient Care. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, many individuals do not understand the necessary and valuable patient care role that pharmacists provide;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association commit resources to develop a public information program promoting the professional image of pharmacists to the general public, public policy makers, other health care professionals, and health-care decision makers.

Action by Membership: PASSED .

Resolution 2003-19

MPA Resolution of Standards of Practice for Pharmacy in Montana, 2003. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, Pharmacy associations define the standards of practice within the profession of pharmacy, and;
WHEREAS, the Montana Pharmacy Association is the only professional pharmacy association representing pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in all practice settings in the state of Montana, and;
WHEREAS, the Montana Pharmacy Association, in consultation with other state and national pharmacy associations, has prepared a document (attached) which defines the standards of pharmacy practice within Montana, and;

WHEREAS, this document has been reviewed by Montana pharmacists;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association endorses and adopts this document defining the standards of pharmacy practice in Montana;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association inform the Montana Board of Pharmacy of the action taken with regard to this Resolution, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association will regularly review and update this document as changes in pharmacy practice occur.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-20

MPA Resolution on Medication Safety and Importation of Prescription Drugs. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration is responsible for ensuring that the integrity of the United States drug supply is maintained, and;

WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration is opposed to the importation of prescription drug products from Canada and other foreign countries due to possible compromise in the integrity of the drugs imported, and;

WHEREAS, compromised drug products can result in patient harm;

BE IT RESOLVED, that due to patient safety concerns, the Montana Pharmacy Association opposes the illegal importation of prescription drug products from Canada and other foreign countries by patients for personal use.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-21

MPA Resolution on Education and Training for Pharmacy Technicians. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, trained pharmacy technicians are necessary to provide safe pharmacy services, and;

WHEREAS, community-based pharmacy technician training programs help to ensure a necessary supply of entry-level trained pharmacy technicians, and;

WHEREAS, the University of Montana, College of Technology, Missoula Pharmacy Technician Training Program, under the leadership of Peg Brownlee R.Ph., has provided this service since 1996;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association supports the continual funding and operation of the Pharmacy Technician Training Program at the University of Montana, College of Technology, Missoula;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association appreciates the dedication and work of Peg Brownlee, RPh has committed over the years to maintain this valuable program.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-22

MPA Resolution on University of Montana School of Pharmacy Faculty. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, the University of Montana School of Pharmacy has a dedicated and highly-trained faculty that helps to develop and provide the highest quality continuing education for Montana Pharmacists;

WHEREAS, Howard Beall Ph.D., J. Douglas Coffin Ph.D., Todd Cochran Ph.D., and Vince Colucci Pharm.D. are presenting continuing education programs at the 2003 Tri-State Pharmacy Convention in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho;

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Montana Pharmacy Association appreciates their contributions to the advancement of pharmacy.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-23

MPA Resolution on Medicare Reform and RX Coverage for Senior Citizens. Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, many elderly people face hardship in affording their prescription medications, and;

WHEREAS, the United States Congress is attempting to provide a program to cover outpatient prescriptions for Medicare recipients, and;

WHEREAS, Pharmacists are the experts in the medication delivery process, and;

WHEREAS, direct patient care services provided by pharmacists help to ensure safe and cost-effective drug therapy for patients;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association supports a fully funded prescription drug program for Medicare beneficiaries that maintains the continuity of patient care and ensures the best use of medications, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association recommends that the program provide appropriate product reimbursement to pharmacists for dispensing services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association recommends that the program provide appropriate coverage and payment for non-dispensing patient care services provided by pharmacists;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association recommends that the program provide open access that allows any willing provider to participate.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

Resolution 2003-24

MPA Resolution on Pharmacy Benefit Management Companies (PBMs). Introduced by Randy Kuiper, Pharm. D.

WHEREAS, the activities of pharmacy benefit managers include activities unrelated to the electronic and/or financial administration of a drug benefit, and;

WHEREAS, some of these activities involve 'the practice of pharmacy' as defined by Montana law MCA 37-7-101);

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Montana Pharmacy Association supports seeking legislative authority to regulate pharmacy benefit managers who conduct business within the State of Montana in the 59th Legislative Session, which begins in January 2005;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Pharmacy Association communicate this position to the Montana Board of Pharmacy in order to enlist their assistance and support in this effort.

Action by Membership: PASSED_____.

End

