



HAWAII PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

2020: A Year in Review



The Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPhA) would like to introduce our bi-annual electronic newsletter! In each edition, we will feature scheduled up-coming events, activities, and information that we believe will benefit our membership.

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION

The Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPhA) is the only professional 501(c)(6) pharmacy association in Hawaii. HPhA is also an ACPE accredited provider in the State of Hawaii offering various accredited continuing education programs to pharmacists throughout the state.

We have various committees where you can provide your input and help to contribute to the future of pharmacy in Hawaii. The committees are listed below. Please feel free to contact us via hawaiipharm@gmail.com if you would like to join any of the committees.

Committees

Programs | Finance | Government Affairs | Membership | Scholarship & Awards

HPhA Membership Benefits

Reduced registration fees for HPhA sponsored events.

Expansions of your network of colleagues, mentors, and friends.
 Ability to influence public health policy decisions on the local, state, and national levels.
 Updates on current national, state, and local legislation affecting public health in Hawaii.
 An outlet to submit written and oral testimony.

*Effective July 2020



Specific Member Benefits

Pharmacist Members: Access to **free continuing education** content and over 35 hours of Accreditation Counsel for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) credits upon successful completion of the course and exam questions through The World

Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA)

Student Members: Take advantage of a 20% discount on NAPLEX Board Preparation and Review Resources through [Exam Master](#)

Type of Member	Previous Rates	Current Pricing
Active Pharmacist	\$210	\$180
New Practitioner (Graduated within last 2 years)	\$210	\$180/ two years or \$120/ year
Pharmacy Resident	\$75	\$75
Retired Pharmacist	\$190	\$130
Technician	\$65	\$50
Student	\$25	\$25
Other Healthcare Professionals	\$75	\$75

COVID-19 in Hawai'i

Elizabeth Char, the interim Director of the State of Hawai'i Department of Health, is currently leading an interagency collaborative effort to keep our community safe and healthy. They created an informative website hawaiiicovid19.com to empower Hawaii residents and visitors with prevention information that will control the spread of COVID-19 in Hawaii.

The website outlines all pertinent information and guidelines related to COVID-19 such as Governor Ige's statewide re-opening updates, ways to prevent and minimize the spread of COVID-19, and information regarding possibly vulnerable populations such as our keiki and/or kapuna. The website also gives detailed information about practicing healthy habits, how to prepare responsibly, planning for contingencies, and supporting self-emotional wellness.

If you ever have a question or is uncertain about, you can call 2-1-1 and an Aloha United Way specialist will be on the line to answer and clarify any of your questions.

COVID-19 BULLETIN BOARD

++ Disclaimer: This page is strictly for educational purposes, is updated periodically, and may not be reflective of the ever-changing pandemic. It does not reflect any of the views/opinions of HPhA. HPhA does not endorse or have any specific affiliations with the groups and/or organizations. ++

As we all want to move on from this pandemic, we must first ensure the safety of ourselves and those around us by practicing healthy habits and abiding to the given guidelines. Please see HPhA COVID-19 Bulletin Board.

Legislative Updates

The second wave of COVID-19 is underway and our nation's COVID-19 testing capacity is working to provide adequate access. ASHP needs help to Urge Congress to Reimburse Pharmacists for COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Services.

Every state allows pharmacists to administer COVID-19 tests, but the government will not pay most pharmacies to administer COVID-19 from [HPhA](#) testing for Medicare beneficiaries.

Hawaii-specific Legislation: (ongoing)

Topic	Brief Description	Last Updated
Free PPE for Small Businesses and Non-profits	Starting August 26, 2020, the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) has opened an opportunity for non-profit organizations and small businesses to obtain PPE equipment free of charge. To qualify, businesses must have fewer than 100 employees (pre-COVID). There is no restriction of size of non-profits.	9/2020
Pharmacists administering COVID-19 tests	Pharmacists and pharmacy interns, under the direct supervision of a pharmacist, to administer COVID-19 tests as long as they are following all appropriate guidelines. Employers should refer to DHHS 20-02 for further guidance regarding staff education/training.	8/20/20

Currently, Congress has been asked to amend Section 1861(s)(2) and Section 1833(a)(1) of the SSA to temporarily allow coverage and reimbursement of services to accommodate pharmacists' different settings of care. Those services are:

1. Provision of COVID-19 testing (diagnostic and serology) and associated services.
2. Provision of flu and respiratory syncytial virus testing and associated service.
3. Vaccination of COVID-19 and influenza.
4. Provision of other tests of services deemed necessary by the Secretary to respond to COVID-19.

If you would like to take action please visit ASHP's weblink [HERE](#) to assist with the Nation's COVID-19 response in the next round of pandemic response legislation.

We Want to Hear from YOU!

How can HPhA help better serve current members and reach other pharmacists in the state? Please reach out to our board members via email at hawaiipharm@gmail.com with any comments or suggestions! New initiatives may be included, but not limited, to:

- Legislation pertaining to provider status, regulatory oversight, post-adjudication claim adjustments, you name it!
- Virtual events and networking opportunities
- How we can help pharmacists across the state actively engaging in the fight against COVID19

Looking Ahead: HPhA Annual Meeting in April 2021

Don't miss out on our virtual meeting that will ensure we are able to continue to provide pharmacists across the state with:

- Discussion rooms and networking opportunities
- Student interview preparation sessions
- Resident poster awards and presentations
- Relevant live continuing education

HPhA Awardees 2020



Bowl of Hygeia

Wendy Iwasaki, PharmD, BCACP, BCGP

Nobody was prepared for COVID. Wendy saw a need for PPE and used her skills to create a community of able-bodied volunteers to make cloth masks and bonnets for health care and essential workers. She developed group through social media “Masks4Hawaii,” and has coordinated the donation of over 10,000 individually hand-sewn masks, 454 sewn surgical bonnets and made over 6,000 mask hooks since March. The volunteers are heroes in every sense of the word. I can’t thank Wendy Iwasaki enough for all her hard work bringing this effort into fruition.

Sponsored by: American Pharmacists Association Foundation and the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA)



Excellence in Innovation

Brian White, PharmD

Dr. Brian White is the former Chief of Pharmacy at Tripler Army Medical Center and recently has been promoted to Deputy to the Commander for Patient Services. In the face of unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. White has been instrumental in ensuring pharmacy coverage in all aspects of patient care and in creating a plan for TAMC in the event of a surge. He has implemented training for ambulatory care pharmacists to work in an inpatient environment, staff inpatient pharmacists to provide Emergency Department coverage, and a successful drive-thru pharmacy to increase patient and staff safety while maintaining outpatient pharmacy service during the pandemic.

Sponsored by: Upsher-Smith Laboratories, LLC and administered by NASPA

2020 Distinguished Young Pharmacists (DYP) Award

Jarred Prudencio, PharmD, BCACP, BC-ADM

Dr. Jarred Prudencio graduated in 2015 from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) and completed a post-graduate year 1 (PGY-1) pharmacy practice residency at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, California. He is an assistant professor at the DKICP and practices as an ambulatory care clinical pharmacist at the Hawaii Island Family Health Center (HIFHC). Dr. Prudencio’s innovation and creativity is displayed in his Instagram account, ambcarerx, which features clinical pharmacy pearls, summaries of guidelines, biostatistics reviews, and medication counseling points. He has amassed over 15,000 followers on his 250+ posts. The account is designed to provide students and clinicians timely and pertinent information through the use of a social media platform and shows his commitment to advancing the profession of pharmacy and supporting life-long learning.

Sponsored by: Pharmacists Mutual





Pharmacy Technician of the Year

Christina Method, CPhT

Christina has been instrumental in coordinating student experiential sites in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. Working with all experiential sites (retail, hospital, clinic) and their safety restrictions.

Sponsored by: HPhA

Friends of Pharmacy Award

Allen (Chip) Hixon, MD

As Chair for the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at JABSOM, Dr. Hixon has been a champion of pharmacy partners for over 15 years. The Family Medicine Department has incorporated clinical pharmacists in their academic practices since 2009 beginning in Hilo, expanding to the Physician Center Mililani on Oahu, and most recently opening the University Health Partners, Family Medicine Clinic at Pali Momi with dedicated space for clinical pharmacy education.

Sponsored by: HPhA



Pharmacist of the Year

Sheri Tokumaru, PharmD, BCCCP



Dr. Tokumaru is an Associate Professor at the University of Hawaii at Hilo Daniel K. Inoué College of Pharmacy. She currently serves as the Director of Interprofessional Education and Development where she works to implement and advance interprofessional education in conjunction with medicine, nursing, public health and social work education programs. Dr. Tokumaru also manages pharmacy IPPE and APPE experiential education at The Queen's Medical Center where she practices in the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit. She was recently chosen as one of the professionals to collaborate on and create Guidelines for the Acute Treatment of Cerebral Edema in Neurocritical Care Patients, which was published in March 2020 in Neurocritical Care Journal.

Sponsored by: HPhA

Generation Rx Award

Kimberly Legawa, PharmD, BCPS

Kim has worked with the opioid steering committee to develop a partnership between pharmacy, providers, and the patients to ensure the safety of appropriate use of pain medications for patients. She has helped steer the opioid agreements, oversees pharmacists who assist with pain management and downward titration of medications, helped implement Naloxone availability through the outpatient pharmacy, as well as helps to support ongoing monitoring of national pharmacy measures in which Hawaii outperforms other Kaiser Permanente regions.

Sponsored by: HPhA



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A Message From the Board

On Friday, December 11th and Thursday, December 17th the FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, respectively. It's hard to believe that it was just this month we saw video of the very first COVID vaccines being shipped. **Since then, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians across the state, are managing the receipt and careful storage of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.**

But, what we haven't seen is the many frontline community pharmacists and long term care pharmacists that are also ready to serve. We want to specially recognize the thousands of community pharmacists who, after immunizing for over 10 years, have made it possible for pharmacists to be front and center. During the current roll out, pharmacists involved in healthcare systems caring directly for COVID patients have been prioritized. These systems have developed internal methods and metrics for allocation within themselves.

HPHA hears you loud and clear - you are ready to help your communities get vaccinated, you are ready to receive your own vaccine, and you are ready to answer your patients' and facilities' questions. We've got your backs. We are talking with the Hawaii Department of Health Services about this phase and the next phases of the rollout of these vaccines.

We are in this together. We are preparing for an all-out, all-hands-on-deck immunization neighborhood to address this pandemic in 2021. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting a little brighter. Mahalo for your patience, and we promise to continue advocating for pharmacists to be vaccinated as soon as possible.