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# News and Views

## DECEMBER 2019

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## LOOKING AHEAD

[Hemophilia - Payers](#) 12/10, 2pm ET, free  
[Anti-TNF Failure, RA](#) 12/11, 2pm ET, free  
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## FUNDAMENTALS of Managed Care Pharmacy



## Vote Now: AMCP Board of Directors Election Closes on Friday, Dec. 6

It's not too late to cast your vote for next year's AMCP Board. The candidate for president-elect is Paul L. Jeffrey, PharmD. Candidates for director are: Jessica Daw, PharmD, MBA; Pat Gleason, PharmD, BCPS, FCCP, FAMCP; Jeffrey W. Larson, RPh, MS, MBA; Debra J. Minich, BS Pharm, RPh; Carly Rodriguez, PharmD, FAMCP; and Celynda G. Tadlock, PharmD, MBA. [Learn more about the candidates.](#) To vote, look for an email from [AMCPhelp@mg.electionservicescorp.com](mailto:AMCPhelp@mg.electionservicescorp.com). Check your spam if you do not see the email. Only Pharmacists, Physicians, and Nurses who are Active Members of AMCP are

eligible to vote. For questions, please contact [AMCPHelp@electionservicescorp.com](mailto:AMCPHelp@electionservicescorp.com) or call 1-866-720-4357. Polls close Friday, Dec. 6 at 5pm ET. *(image, board swearing-in at AMCP Annual Meeting 2019)*



## Apply Today: AMCP Award Nominations Close Thursday, Dec. 12

Do you know someone who has gone beyond the call of duty to advance the practice of managed care pharmacy and/or AMCP? AMCP is seeking [award nominations](#) to recognize outstanding members and non-members who have made significant contributions to the profession and the organization. Award recipients will be recognized publicly at AMCP 2020, April 21-24 in Houston. **Nominations are due by Thursday, Dec. 12!** The 2020 Categories are: Diplomat of the Year Award (new!), Distinguished Service Award, Experiential Education Preceptor Award, Fellow (FAMCP) Program, Grassroots Advocacy Award, Individual Contribution Award, JMCP Award for Excellence, Managed Care Pharmacy Residency Director/Preceptor Award, New Practitioner Award, and Spirit of Volunteerism Award. *(image, 2019 awards ceremony)*



## CEO Blog: AMCP is Helping to Define Digital Therapeutics for Coverage

A new blog from CEO Susan A. Cantrell, RPh, CAE discusses how AMCP has been at the forefront of health care innovation for more than 30 years and it continues that proud tradition by taking a leadership position on the exciting, emerging field of digital therapeutics. What are digital therapeutics and where do they fit into pharmacy and medical benefits? These fundamental questions served as a starting point for our recent [AMCP Partnership Forum](#) on the challenges and opportunities of ensuring patients are able to access these unique therapies, which many agree are on the frontier of medical science. [Read more about AMCP's involvement with digital therapeutics.](#)



Let's Continue the #GivingTuesday Spirit for AMCP Foundation

AMCP Foundation's Giving Tuesday blitz attracted more than 60 donors who gave more than \$7,000. Thank you, AMCP members, for helping us exceed our goal! Each gift helps the Foundation carry out our mission of developing leaders and facilitating innovative research. "The managed care community *cares*," said AMCP Foundation



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Executive Director Paula J. Eichenbrenner, MBA, CAE. “AMCP’s response to this global, epic celebration of generosity is a testament to the value of the Foundation’s programs supporting the profession of managed care pharmacy and its future leadership.” Help us carry this spirit forward! [Support ongoing activities](#) or the [Carroll Fund for student pharmacists](#).



## AMCP 2020 Call for Posters Is Open

AMCP invites researchers to [submit poster abstracts for display at AMCP 2020](#). Attended by more than 4,000 managed care pharmacists and other health care professionals, AMCP 2020 will be held April 21-24, 2020, at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston. Posters will be displayed in the exhibit hall on: Wednesday, April 22 from 4:30–6:30pm during the opening reception; Thursday, April 23 from 11:30 am–2:45pm during lunch; and Friday, April 24 from 9:30–11am. The highest rated abstracts will be selected for a 15-minute podium presentation as part of an education session at AMCP 2020. Deadline to submit is **3:30pm ET on Thursday, Dec. 12**.

— SAVE THE DATE! —

Registration opens  
at 1pm on Tues., Dec. 10!



## Registration for AMCP 2020 Opens Soon

AMCP 2020 will attract thousands of managed care pharmacy professionals to Houston, Texas, April 21-24, 2020. Make sure you're among them! **Registration opens Dec. 10**.



## Final Partnership Forum of 2019 Looks at Next Steps for Specialty Medication Benefit Design and Reimbursement

The final [AMCP Partnership Forum](#) of the year, “What’s Next for Specialty Medication Benefit Design and Reimbursement,” will address a root cause of today’s high pharmaceutical spending: how to better manage the increasing number of expensive specialty medicines coming to market. Participants of the Dec. 10-11 event, which takes place near Washington, D.C., will develop recommendations on ways to modernize payment of [specialty medications](#) covered by commercial benefits, as well as Medicaid and Medicare. Recommendations will focus on payment systems and policies that:

- Reduce costs for beneficiaries while maintaining or improving access to prescription drugs
- Support marketplace competition and incentives for biopharmaceutical innovation
- Minimize physicians’ burden and the financial risk associated with managing drug inventories

- Remove adverse reimbursement incentives for prescribing higher priced drugs
- Consider the cost-effectiveness of treatments and services across the health care continuum

Findings and recommendations from the Partnership Forum will be published in an upcoming issue of AMCP's [Journal of Managed Care & Specialty Pharmacy](#). (image, previous AMCP Partnership Forum)



## Apply Today: AMCP Foundation Summer Internship Applications Are Open

The AMCP Foundation is accepting [applications for participants in 10 summer internship programs](#) with Allergan Plc, Genentech Inc., and Pfizer Inc. These competitive programs offer hands-on experience in health outcomes, pharmacoeconomics, market access, managed health care, pharmaceutical managed health care, and non-profit management. All interns learn about AMCP and the Foundation via “virtual” preceptors who offer mentorship before and after the summer programs. Eligible student pharmacists must be enrolled in a full-time Doctor of Pharmacy and/or a joint Master of Business Administration, Master of Public Policy, Master of Public Health programs in an ACPE-accredited school or college of pharmacy during the 2019–2020 school year. **Application are due Jan. 17, 2020.** For questions, email [contact@amcpfoundation.org](mailto:contact@amcpfoundation.org). (image, 2019 summer interns)



## USC School of Pharmacy Wins AMCP Chapter of the Year Award

The University of Southern California (USC) School of Pharmacy recently received the 2018–2019 AMCP Chapter of the Year award. AMCP has more than [80 student chapters](#) across the country. Nominees for the award were evaluated on the overall quality and impact of three events they hosted during the year, along with a short essay detailing how the chapter advances AMCP's mission and vision. USC's AMCP student chapter was recognized for organizing a [Medicare Part D Enrollment Series](#), the [16th Annual Building Bridges Networking Event](#), and the [11th Annual AMCP Western Regional Conference](#). The award was presented at AMCP Nexus 2019, Oct. 29-Nov. 1 in National Harbor, Md. The University of Minnesota's AMCP student chapter received second place, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's AMCP student chapter received third place. “USC's AMCP student chapter has taken the national organization's vision and thoughtfully produced an array of educational, networking, and service events, giving students not only exposure to managed care pharmacy, but also professional and personal development,” said Jessica Pham, 2019–2020 president of USC's AMCP student chapter. (image, USC chapter leaders at Nexus 2019)

## AMCP Foundation Honors Best Posters at Nexus 2019





AMCP Foundation, JMCP, and CVS Health recently recognized three recipients of Best Poster Awards for outstanding original research in managed care pharmacy. Awards were extended in senior investigator, graduate student, and student pharmacist categories. The Best Poster Award: Oncology & Data was presented to a senior investigator at the [Foundation's Research Symposium](#) at this year's AMCP Nexus 2019. Awards for [Best Student Pharmacist Poster and Best Graduate Student Poster](#) were made possible by support from CVS Health. This year's entries were judged on scientific merit, strength of conclusions, clarity, and knowledge of subject matter during the presentation. Winners are:

- **Best Student Pharmacist Poster: Amy Nguyen**, pharmacy student at St. John's University, won for her poster, "Improving Pharmacotherapies for Hypertension and Diabetes Among Hispanics."
- **Best Graduate Student Poster: Mina Allo**, graduate student at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, won for her research poster, "Regional and National Real-world Health Care Resource Utilization, Clinical, and Cost Outcomes of Type 2 Diabetes Patients Treated with SGLT2i."
- **Best Poster: Oncology & Data: Senior investigator Stacey DaCosta Byfield**, PhD, MPH, director of research, UnitedHealth Group Research and Development, accepted the award (pictured). Dr. DaCosta Byfield also presented a podium lecture during the Research Symposium on behalf of her team and their work, "Evaluation of Treatment Patterns and Outcomes from Linked Claims plus Clinical Prior Authorization Data in Patients Diagnosed with Triple Negative Breast Cancer."

Read all Nexus poster abstracts in the [JMCP supplement](#). (image, l-r, Eichenbrenner, Michelle Chang [CVS Health], DaCosta Byfield, Karen L. Rascati [JMCP])



## 2020: Why FormularyDecisions Is Your Choice to Support Payer Decision-making

Looking to 2020, success in the payer/decision maker and manufacturer information exchange process will be anchored in pipeline products. [FormularyDecisions](#) is ready and able to support early product review and reimbursement efforts by ensuring that payers/decision makers can receive dossiers in the upcoming [Formulary Submissions v4.1 Format](#), as well as platform curated pipeline summary content (P&T Snapshots) to provide instant access to pipeline product information. As always, our registered payers/decision makers can provide feedback on products to support the bidirectional information exchange with manufacturers. Participating manufacturers also can securely exchange dossier (pre-, peri-, and post-approval) and other information with payers/decision makers to gain insight on opportunities to better inform market access strategies and meet these important stakeholders. Visit [www.FormularyDecisions.com](http://www.FormularyDecisions.com) to learn more.

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