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# AMCP NEWS AND VIEWS

MAY 2018

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*AMCP members are committed to providing the best pharmaceutical care for all patients.*

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## LOOKING AHEAD

### **AMCP Market Insights Summit: New Approaches to Management of Psoriasis**

Tuesday, May 8, 2pm EDT

[AMCP Members - Free/AMCP Non-Members - \\$69](#)

### **Management of Hyperkalemia in Hemodialysis Patients**

Thursday, May 10, 2pm EDT

[AMCP Members and Non-Members - Free](#)

### **Tackling Persistent Challenges in MS Decision-Making: How Do We Sort the Evidence?**

Tuesday, May 15, 2pm EDT

[AMCP Members and Non-Members - Free](#)

### **Driving Value and Outcomes in Oncology - Proceedings from the 2017 AMCP Partnership Forum**

Thursday, May 17, 2-3pm EDT

[AMCP Members - Free/AMCP Non-Members - \\$69](#)

### **FDA Companion Diagnostic Testing and Implications for Pharmacy Medical Directors**

Tuesday, May 22, 2pm EDT

[AMCP Members and Non-Members - Free](#)

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## AMCP Annual Meeting Attracts Thousands of Attendees to Boston





More than 4,000 managed care pharmacy professionals and stakeholders from across the country gathered in Boston last month to attend the AMCP Managed Care & Specialty Pharmacy Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting, which kicked off April 23 with pre-meeting events and ran through April 26, is the premier event for pharmacists, physicians, nurses and other health care professionals who manage pharmacy benefits for more than 270 million Americans. The Annual Meeting featured nearly 40 educational sessions, dozens of ancillary educational programs, student pharmacist programming, an awards ceremony, a thought provoking keynote speaker at the General Session, and an Expo hall featuring 120 exhibitors and more than 400 scientific posters. “We are proud to present such robust programming at our Annual Meeting each spring,” said AMCP CEO Susan A. Cantrell, RPh, CAE. “AMCP members rely on this event to gain valuable knowledge and share best practices that allow them to provide the very best patient care for millions of Americans. The Annual Meeting underscores our mission of improving health care for all.” [Read more.](#)



## AMCP & Beyond: CEO Cantrell Says 'It's no Longer Business as Usual' in Remarks at General Session of Annual Meeting

Hello! Welcome to Boston and the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy's Annual Meeting! It is my pleasure to stand here before you at this pivotal moment in the history of our country's health care system. As we just saw, the way we deliver care is undergoing a sweeping transformation by forces that require new thinking and innovation. Glance at any news outlet today and you'll see story after story on the trends buffeting health care:

- **Headline:** skyrocketing costs place enormous burdens on patients and payers alike.
- **Headline:** breakthrough therapies come with astronomical price tags.
- **Headline:** a flood of state and federal legislative proposals aim to control drug prices. And, fundamentally,
- **Headline:** how viable is the U.S. health care system?

[Read more.](#)



## Managed Care Pharmacy Leaders Are Honored at Annual Awards Dinner

AMCP and the Foundation recognized leaders of managed care pharmacy at a gala Awards Dinner held April 25 as part of the AMCP Annual Meeting in Boston. “The individuals that we recognize each spring at our Awards Dinner exemplify the very best of our profession,” said CEO Susan A. Cantrell, RPh, CAE.

“They are the thought leaders and innovators who work tirelessly to improve the delivery of patient care for millions of Americans. These individuals also have given

countless hours of their time and talents to advance the mission of AMCP, and they serve as an inspiration for all of our members.” The AMCP Foundation Steven G. Avey Award, the profession’s highest honor, went this year to **Kim A Caldwell**, RPh, Vice President of Pharmacy Professional Affairs at Humana Inc. [Read more](#). (Image above: Past President Diana Brixner emceed Awards Dinner)



## AMCP President Mitzi Wasik Issues a Challenge in Inaugural Speech

*The following is a transcript of the speech Incoming President Mitzi Wasik presented April 24 at General Session of the Annual Meeting:*

It’s great to see so many friends and colleagues here in Boston! Eighteen years ago when I joined AMCP as a student I never knew the impact it would have on my career, the friends and colleagues I would meet or the doors it would open for me. I remember clearly when I was a resident at my first AMCP General Session watching the passing of the gavel. I would admire these leaders and the impact they’re having on the profession, and think to myself, “What can I do in pharmacy to make a difference?” Flash forward not-so-many-years later, and I am still asking myself those same questions on a daily basis: How am I going to make a mark? How can we all not just go through the daily grind, but actually make a positive difference in people’s lives? [Read more](#).

## AMCP Confers Honorary Membership to Eight Founders at Annual Meeting

*To Build Your Expertise,*

**START WITH THE BASICS**




**CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**



The Academy honored the individuals who 30 years ago founded AMCP. At the General Session of the Annual Meeting, CEO Cantrell conferred honorary membership to all eight founders who were in attendance. Following a video on their achievements, the founders appeared on stage to a thunderous round of applause. Cantrell then noted, “It is because of your vision three decades ago that we are gathered here with thousands of our colleagues in Boston. It is because of your vision that we have thousands of more members in every state across the country, working to ensure the principles and practices of managed care pharmacy — that you laid out with such care and precision — are improving the lives of millions of Americans. It is because of your vision that our profession and the Academy is thriving today.”

*(Image: from left, Henry Blissenbach, Albert Carver, Perry Cohen, John Ciuffo, Susan Cantrell, Pete Penna, Robert Navarro, Jay Messeroff and Norrie Thomas.)*



## AMCP and AMCP Foundation Leaders Approve Joint Research Agenda

The AMCP Board of Directors and Foundation Trustees (*pictured above*) last month approved a four-part research agenda that will identify and prioritize critical evidentiary gaps in managed care pharmacy. The agenda was proposed by the AMCP & AMCP Foundation Joint Research Committee (JRC), which was established in 2016 to promote and encourage the creation and dissemination of relevant and credible research and initiatives to advance patient care services in managed care pharmacy. The four research priority areas are:

1. Real world evidence to inform managed care pharmacy decision-making;
2. Value-based models in managed care pharmacy to address total cost of care;
3. Impact of benefit design or utilization management strategies on patient outcomes; and
4. Impact of direct patient care services provided by managed care pharmacy on patient outcomes.

More details will be published in an upcoming issue of the *Journal of Managed Care & Specialty Pharmacy*.



## University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Wins 2018 National P&T Competition

For the second year in a row, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Eshelman School of Pharmacy won the top spot in the AMCP Foundation National Student Pharmacist Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Competition. The awards were announced April 26 at the AMCP Annual Meeting in Boston. This year, 60 AMCP Student Pharmacist Chapters nationwide participated. The 2018 winning teams are: **First Place:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Eshelman School of Pharmacy; **Second Place:** University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy; and **Third Place:** The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy. [Read more.](#)



## AMCP Foundation Announces Recipients of 2018 National Best Poster Contests

The AMCP Foundation announced winners of its 2018 Best Poster Contests April 26 at the AMCP Foundation Awards Ceremony during the AMCP Annual Meeting in Boston. This year's competitions drew 112 entries, which were judged on criteria such as scientific merit; strength of conclusions; relevance of research to managed care pharmacy; clarity of materials; and knowledge of subject matter during the presentation. **Best Student Pharmacist Poster:** Irfan Khan and Brigitte Azzi, students at Touro College of Pharmacy in New York (*pictured above*). **Best Resident or Fellow Poster:** Sage Bagwell, PharmD, a year-one managed care pharmacy resident at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Commonwealth Medicine in Clinical Pharmacy Services. **Best Graduate Student Poster:** Casey Tak, MPH, a PhD candidate at the University of Utah College of Pharmacy. [Read more.](#)



## Specialty Connect: Focus on Hemophilia Draws Large Attendance

More than 200 people attended this year's Specialty Connect: Focus on Hemophilia, held April 23 prior to the Annual Meeting in Boston. The event focused on the clinical and economic complexities surrounding the treatment of hemophilia through four in-depth sessions:

- The Present and Future of Hemophilia Treatment
- Managing Patients with Hemophilia: A Payer's Perspective

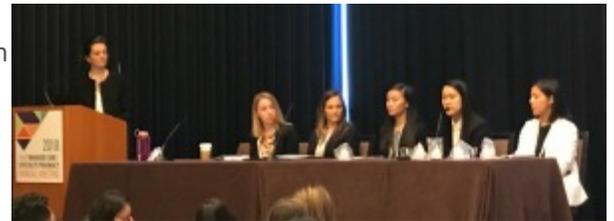
- Gene Therapy for Hemophilia: Hope for a Cure?
- Perspectives in Hemophilia Management: A Panel Discussion

AMCP President Diana Brixner opened the session, noting that the Connect programs have become an important component of the Annual Meeting in recent years. “Specialty medications, as we know, remain the fastest-growing sector of the pharmaceutical industry, and continue to be the primary driver of pharmacy spending,” she said. The event was moderated by Susan Winckler, Chief Risk Management Officer of Leavitt Partners. The educational programming for Specialty Connect was developed through independent grants from CSL Behring LLC, Novo Nordisk Inc., and Shire.



## Student Pharmacists Took Advantage of Annual Meeting’s Special Programming

The AMCP Annual Meeting in Boston provided ample programming for student pharmacist members. Targeted sessions included those on the importance of patient reported outcomes, and innovations in medication therapy management. These sessions were informative and well attended by both student and non-student pharmacist members alike. In addition, students crowded a nearby hallway between sessions at a Student Connect event to network with



members of the Student Pharmacist Committee and learn more about national opportunities with AMCP. In addition, many students took in the first themed Chapter Leadership Academy, which focused on the importance of advocacy in managed care pharmacy. Student pharmacist members were fully engaged and enthused throughout the entire conference!

*(Images: above/left, students listen to a presentation at the Chapter Leadership Academy; right, student leaders discuss individual advocacy projects).*

### Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy

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