From the President’s Desk

On behalf of the NEAMCP board, I hope that you and your families are staying safe and healthy during this unprecedented time.

As you all know, AMCP Annual Meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19. We recognize that with its cancellation, it may be a challenge for some to obtain CE credits; therefore, we are working with PTCE to host live CE sessions that can be attended via webinar. We have had great success in the past organizing valuable webinar meetings for our membership and we look forward to continuing to provide these through our collaborations with PTCE and managed care organizations.

Although we will not be able to have a formal investiture of the new board members at the annual meeting, starting in April, we are welcoming the following new members to the Board of Directors:

**President-Elect**
Nicole Trask, Pharm.D.
Senior Scientific Account Lead
Value & Evidence Scientific Engagement
Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC

**Programming Director**
Vera Richman
Director, National Payer Accounts
Sage Therapeutics

**Secretary**
Fatima Ali, Pharm.D.
Clinical Innovation Pharmacist
RxAdvance

The NEAMCP Board would like to thank all the nominees for their willingness and gracious support of the affiliate. Your volunteer spirit is what makes the affiliate stand out as a model for the rest of the other affiliates. Please continue to pursue an opportunity to join our board in the future!

It has been a great pleasure in serving as president of the NEAMCP affiliate. I look forward to working with the past, current, and new board members, especially Daniel Shan who will be taking over as President.

Please continue to connect with us via our LinkedIn and Twitter groups, along with the NEAMCP website, for updates on upcoming events.

And again, I hope that you all continue to stay safe and healthy!

Warm regards – Haita

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Calendar of Events

May 19, 2020 at 6PM: Examining Unmet Medical Needs in Schizophrenia, New Treatment Data, and Healthcare Economics (continuing education webinar)

June 17, 2020 at 6PM: Cystic Fibrosis (continuing education webinar)

Keep an eye out for more information on upcoming educational sessions currently in the works!

If you have any suggestions about this program or future programming, please contact NEAMCP. For information on “Future Events and Activities” please go to www.amcp.org/northeast.

AMCP Nexus 2019

Legislative Affairs

In Feb. 2020, CMS issued a proposed rule updating the Medicare Advantage and Part D programs. Under the proposed rule, many of the programmatic changes resulting from recently passed legislation, including the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, the 21st Century Cures Act, and the Substance Use Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities (SUPPORT) Act would be implemented. In addition, the proposal would allow Part D plan sponsors to establish a secondary “preferred” specialty tier with lower cost sharing and would allow each Part D plan to implement a beneficiary real-time benefit tool that would allow enrollees to view real-time formulary and benefit information. For more information, read AMCP’s summary of the proposed rule.

In March 2020, Sens. Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) reintroduced the Protecting Jessica Grubb’s Legacy Act, which would result in changes to existing privacy regulations (42 CFR Part 2) surrounding medical records for individuals with substance use disorder (SUD). The goal of the bill is to ensure those in recovery are not accidentally prescribed opioids. Current regulations protect the privacy of the medical records of patients with SUD by prohibiting unauthorized disclosures of patient records except in limited circumstances. Under the proposed legislation, patients could opt-in to sharing their addiction medical records with additional health care providers for the purposes of treatment, payment, and health care operations. Patients would retain control of their records and could rescind their consent to share. The proposed legislation would align with current HIPAA requirements. A final rule from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration’s (SAMHSA) to modernize 42 CFR Part 2 is under review by the Office of Management and Budget.

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Student Chapter Update

As one of the recipients of the Northeast AMCP affiliate’s scholarship to attend AMCP Nexus, I was thrilled to expand my knowledge and network with like-minded individuals at my first AMCP national conference. There were so many memorable events, workshops, and networking sessions throughout my time at Nexus. Starting with the initial social night at Brass Tap all the way to the Residency and Fellowship Showcase, I was able to network with and learn from so many leaders within managed care. This was made especially possible due to the jam-packed itinerary that was created for myself and Gregory Statt as part of the Northeast AMCP affiliate’s scholarship. I definitely enjoyed being able to take part in the AMCP board meeting with all affiliate chapters to learn about what other affiliates have been accomplishing nation-wide.

Furthermore, the educational sessions and workshops were extremely organized, allowing me to partake in not only student sessions, but also sessions that sparked my interest, such as specialty management and value-based care workshops. Attending Nexus has been a great learning opportunity, as I was able to build upon the basics that I had learned from my didactic courses at St. John’s University.

It was also an honor to have presented about my research, “Improving pharmacotherapies for hypertension and diabetes among Hispanics,” which was granted AMCP Foundation’s “Best Poster Award” among student pharmacists at this year’s meeting. AMCP Nexus has by far surpassed my expectations and has become one of my favorite conferences that I have attended as a student pharmacist. I am excited to attend future national meetings to not only reconnect with everyone that I had met at Nexus, but to also connect with new faces within the industry. I want to thank the board members of the Northeast AMCP affiliate again for this amazing opportunity, and I look forward to staying involved in AMCP as Magellan Rx Management’s Managed Care Pharmacy Resident this upcoming year.

Amy Nguyen, PharmD Candidate 2020
NE AMCP Scholarship Recipient Nexus 2019
St. John’s University

Check us out on Social Media!

Getting the most up-to-date invites and information is easy! If you haven’t already, be sure to follow both the new @NEAMCP1 twitter page as well as the AMCP Northeast Affiliate group on LinkedIn. Chapter news and local events will be posted periodically and it is also a great way to connect with other individuals with similar interests.