

October 2020

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For more information

<http://www.amcp.org/Northwest/>

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<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7070568>

Words from Our President



**Armen
Khachatourian**

Greetings NW AMCP Chapter Members,

As we approach the home stretch of 2020, I hope you are all staying safe and healthy.

These past months have been an incredibly difficult time for many, and we are optimistic that as a community of managed care professionals, we can come together to support one another and foster comradery throughout. Our goal of improving patient care remains an unwavering common bond.

Collaboration and cooperation are still the keys to our continued success, even though the mediums by which we engage have become increasingly virtual. In keeping with this spirit, our esteemed board members have worked tirelessly to create virtual programming for our membership to ensure we can all stay connected during this period of isolation.

We look forward to connecting with you all in the coming months and greatly look towards the day we can meet face to face again from less than 6 feet away.

Armen

SAVE THE DATE for this VIRTUAL Northwest AMCP Affiliate Program!

Date: Thursday, November 12th, 2020

Time: 6 PM PST

Event: Washington State Healthcare Authority Preferred Drug List:
Perspective on strategy, implementation, and future of the Washington Healthcare Authority PDL with both regional payer and Medicaid insight

Panel Members:

- **Donna Sullivan**, PharmD, MBA, HCA Chief Pharmacy Officer
- **Yusuf Rashid**, VP of Pharmacy and Vendor Relationship Management Community Health Plan of Washington

******The Affiliate Meeting Registration details to follow******

NOTE: If you do not receive the follow-up meeting invite, please send an email to northwestamcp@gmail.com to ensure you can join us!

Kenneth - Welcome to the Board!



College of Pharmacy Liaison Kenneth Garcia

Kenneth Garcia Recently started as a Clinical Pharmacist at Moda Health. In July, she completed her PGY1 Managed Care Pharmacy Residency at Premera Blue Cross in Mountlake Terrace, WA, where she had the opportunity to complete off-site rotations with various organizations, including ICER and AMCP Foundation. During her residency, Kenneth completed her major project on the assessment of non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) diagnostics and upcoming therapies.

Kenneth completed her PharmD at Pacific University and as the Activities Coordinator at their AMCP chapter, she collaborated with the NW Affiliate in various events including organizing and recruiting participants for Pacific University's inaugural P&T local competition. She also served 2 terms with the AMCP Student Pharmacists Committee while in pharmacy school and worked as a research assistant with Dymaxium (now part of Xcenda). Prior to pharmacy school, Kenneth worked as a pharmacy technician with various roles at San Francisco Health Plan (CA), including but not limited to serving as the residency coordinator for their PGY1 Managed Care Residency Program.

Kenneth enjoys spending her spare time exploring the great outdoors that the Pacific Northwest has to offer and tending to her plants.

Virtual Managed Care Day

Given the new working environment, this fall's managed care day will be held virtually! This year we will be hosting a 2-day event in November and invite all current pharmacy students within the region to participate. The following is a quick overview of what to expect in this year's managed care day:

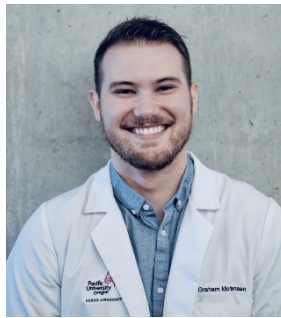
- Day 1 (2.5 hours)
 - Presentations from local managed care organizations and life science companies
 - Roundtable from past managed care residents and former fellows
- Day 2 (2.5 hours)
 - Presentations from current PGY1 Managed Care Resident and fellows
 - Roundtable discussion with current managed care residents and current fellows.

We hope that this new virtual model and proposed time commitment will make it easier for current students to attend. This event will afford students the opportunity to engage in dynamic discussions with the panelists and presenters. Students will also learn more about the various roles of pharmacists, gain valuable insight on the current challenges and opportunities for managed care organizations and life science companies. Most importantly, this event will allow students to learn more on how to

become a competitive applicant for managed care residency or industry fellowships. We will be reaching out to our Student AMCP Chapters soon with more information.

Student Viewpoint - Clinical Rotations in Managed Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Graham Mortensen
PharmD Candidate | Class of 2021
Pacific University School of Pharmacy



Pharmacy students around the country are currently facing new and unexpected challenges during their educational career. Many clinical rotation sites have understandably opted to limit their intake of students due to the unprecedented impact that COVID-19 has brought to the healthcare system. Aspiring pharmacists might be experiencing a feeling of unease, as they wonder what complications this might bring to their career development. Clinical rotations are important experiences for pharmacy

students to gain the necessary knowledge and training they need to succeed. As the year progresses, there may still be uncertainty surrounding the possibilities of my hospital rotations. Students like me have to wonder how this may impact the ability to build experience for our post-graduation plans. Students, like others, must remember that in no way is our education or career more important than human lives, and that we are all going through this together. The determinative factor will be how we learn from this situation and translate it in a meaningful way going forward. I've found it helpful to focus less on what I'm not gaining, and more on what I am.

As a 3rd year pharmacy student with interests in managed care and drug information, I have been fortunate enough to participate in a virtual managed care rotation with PacificSource Health Plans. Nearly one year ago, when I decided to preference a managed care rotation, I was expecting to be working in an office setting with plenty of face-to-face interaction with experienced pharmacists. However, this expectation changed when government officials initiated quarantine and social distancing protocols in response to the pandemic. Many of my classmates had their rotations either re-scheduled or completely removed from their schedule. This left them the option to complete non-traditional virtual rotations other than their original plans to maintain their progress towards graduation.

Working in a virtual capacity was both challenging and rewarding. PacificSource was prepared with the necessary logistics and technology to shift both employees and students to a work-from-home scenario. Because of this, I was still able to get the necessary training and interaction I will need to pursue a career in this field. Participating in P&T meetings, reviewing prior authorization criteria, and analyzing pharmacoeconomic evidence are just a few of the important experiences I was able to gain during my time with PacificSource.

Perhaps we can ask ourselves the question, "what lesson is COVID-19 teaching me that I would have missed otherwise?" Personally, working virtually has reinforced the importance of principles that anyone needs to

succeed after their education, such as accountability, time management, and interprofessional communication. There will be plenty of obstacles I will face as the year progresses. I could very well miss out on my important hospital rotations. However, it is my hope that as we all navigate the new challenges presented to us, that we also reflect on the lessons and opportunities that we can take with us moving forward.

Attention: AMCP NW Pharmacy Student Mentors

**Our first Mentor meeting is right around the corner
(attendance is optional, but we would love to see you there)!**

The purpose of the quarterly NW AMCP student mentor meetings is to discuss mentorship best practices and for mentors to provide feedback on the program.

For our first meeting in November the agenda will be the following:

- Introductions
- Overview of the NW AMCP Student Mentorship Program
- Tips on How to Structure Mentee-Mentor Meetings in the Time of COVID-19
- Q&A Session

Meeting invitations will be sent out to mentors at least one month prior to meeting date to the email provided on the NW AMCP Volunteer Student Mentor Form. Please see the schedule planned for 2020-2021 below.

If you are a NW AMCP Student Mentor, we are looking forward to seeing you (virtually) on November 3rd!

2020 – 2021 Mentor Meeting Schedule:

Date	Time (Pacific)
November 3, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm PT
February 2, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm PT
May 4, 2021	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm PT

National AMCP Spotlight

AMCP has put together events that you can access on-line. The programs include CE Programs, Science & Innovation Theater Webinars and Preapproval Information Exchange (PIE) Opportunities.

AMCP's calendar of events: <https://www.amcp.org/calendar>



Put the new AMCP Career Center to work for you!

The last thing you need to worry about in these uncertain times is your career. However, it's always smart to have a backup plan. You can count on AMCP to help.

Upload your resume to the AMCP Career Center today and receive a complimentary resume review from TopResume, the largest resume-writing service in the world. Their experts will provide:

- Honest objective feedback on design, layout, and content.
- Personalized recommendations for strengthening your resume.
- Tools to make a great first impression with potential employers.

careers.amcp.org **Get started today!**



Take your contributions to AMCP to the next level by joining a committee!

As a dedicated managed care professional, joining an AMCP Committee is a great way to up your professional game. You'll be able to contribute to the building blocks of AMCP and serve an essential role in moving the organization and its strategic plan forward.

Take this opportunity to share your expertise and develop policy stands, tools, research, education, and mentorship for managed care pharmacy and AMCP. Committees include:

- AMCP/AMCP Foundation Joint Research Committee
- Educational Affairs Committee
- Finance Committee
- Format Executive Committee
- JMCP Editorial Advisory Board
- Legislative and Regulatory Action Committee
- Membership Committee
- Organizational Affairs Committee
- Professional Practice Committee
- Public Policy Committee
- Schools of Pharmacy Relations Committee
- Student Pharmacist Committee

Send your application by Nov. 2 to be considered for one of these Committees!

[Learn more](#) about AMCP Committee roles.



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