

Mission Statement:

To strengthen the regional communication and professional networking among the stakeholders using medication management principles and strategies to improve health care for all, while supporting the overall mission and aims of the Academy of Managed Care

President's Message

"Greetings to our Ohio-Kentucky Affiliate Members!"

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Affiliate's new participants, as well as thank those who continue their membership and activity with the Affiliate for their dedication to advancing the practice of Managed Care Pharmacy. While the hurdles that 2020 has presented certainly loom large, I want to take some time to highlight the fantastic work being done. Additionally, I'd like to outline how the Affiliate is adapting in order to achieve its goals for this year.

Program Planning:

In September, we were fortunate enough to participate in a virtual Continuing Education program hosted by PRIME. The session placed a focus on the emerging therapeutic landscape within HIV and addressed the payer implications for managing treatment. We received great feedback from the program's attendees, and we are excited to continue working with PRIME to coordinate more virtual events in the future. We are firmly in the planning phase of this year's Grand Rounds events. An exciting tool that we've incorporated this year as part of that planning is an Industry Gap Analysis survey.

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Ohio-Kentucky Leadership

Cavan O'Reilly, President
Marko Blagojevic, President Elect
Donna Bell, Secretary Treasurer
Jordan Maddocks, Director
Mary Rutherford, Director
Candace Zheng, Director
James (Jamie) Nash, Immediate Past President

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By gathering input from professionals across Managed Care, our presenting Pharmacy Residents will be provided with a variety of topics that are timely and interesting. I am thankful for all of the work that has been put into this survey and am excited to see our already fantastic Grand Rounds programs produce even greater benefit to both the presenters and the audience.

Mentorship:

If there is a silver lining from the pandemic's impact on in-person gatherings, it is the enhancement of alternative gathering formats. Our Affiliate has seen that extend into our initiatives as well. We have used the increased reliance on virtual correspondence as an opportunity to increase and enhance connections within the Affiliate.

One example of this is the expansion of the Mentorship Program. While student mentees have traditionally been assigned a mentor from their respective local areas, we are now using a virtual approach and connecting students to multiple industry professionals throughout Ohio and Kentucky. We hope that this will serve to broaden the students' exposures to Managed Care through several mentor perspectives and provide even more network links within the Affiliate.

Another opportunity we've capitalized on from the necessitation of gatherings from afar is the inclusion of AMCP Student Chapter Diplomats in our monthly Affiliate Leader meetings. With their participation, we've been able to get valuable insights regarding the needs and concerns of our Student Chapters and give them any needed assistance for their liaison role. I look forward to giving the Diplomats and the students they represent a greater voice within the Affiliate so that we can ensure that we are allowing our Managed Care leaders of tomorrow are given every opportunity to flourish.

Again, I want to thank all of you for your enthusiastic involvement with AMCP. The passion and resolve with which I see our members adapting to and overcoming challenges in order to serve our mission is nothing short of amazing. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, concerns, and ideas as we continue to grow.

Thank you!"

-Cavan O'Reilly, PharmD, BCPS

OH/KY AMCP Affiliate President

**Questions or interested in
becoming more involved?**

Contact us @ oh.ky.amcp.affiliate@gmail.com

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AMCP Member Spotlight



Sheila Thomas, PharmD, RPh

SANOFI, Inc.

Global Head of Patient Insights and Engagement Strategy

How long have you been an AMCP member and why did you choose to get involved?

"Wow, let's see... I've been a member since 2001 and I got involved because I had a tremendous interest in managed care pharmacy. I was first introduced to AMCP when I was at Cigna Health and was captivated by all the education and networking opportunities."

What led you to a career in managed care?

"It all started in pharmacy school. I had a rotation in managed care and decided 'This is it. This is what I want to do.' I knew I wanted to be part of a care team and practice at the top of my license and when I started at Cigna Health, that's exactly what I got. I never looked back."

What do you do at Sanofi and what do you enjoy most about it?

"When I started my career, my interests were in providing information to payers to assist in formulary decisions. Over time, that translated to my current role as the global head of patient insights and engagement strategy. A patient's behavior and perspectives of a given therapy directly impacts their adherence, which is one of the most important aspects of managed care. What I enjoy most about my position is that I get to advocate for patients."

How has AMCP Influenced your career?

AMCP provided me the resources I needed to be a strong candidate for a role within industry, focusing on communicating and disseminating health economics data to payers as well as conducting impactful research. AMCP helped me to maximize my knowledge in managed care to navigate a successful care in pharmaceutical industry.

Any advice for students pursuing managed care?

LEARN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN, WHILE YOU CAN, especially all the different opportunities within managed care. Be open to exploring rotations that can help you learn this information. Connect with mentors and of course, be involved with AMCP!

Legislative Updates



US Supreme Court Hears Argument On State's Ability To Regulate PBMs

- On October 6, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) entertained oral arguments in the case of **Rutledge V Pharmaceutical Care Management Association.**

In Ohio, state representatives introduced HB779, which would end restrictive policies of PBMs that stand between patients and their local pharmacy providers.

- This would prohibit a PBM from requiring patients obtain their prescriptions via mail-order

Ohio State senators plan to introduce a bill that would eliminate step therapy for stage 4 cancer patients.

- This would allow these patients to use the exact drug recommended by their oncologist, rather than be required by insurance to first try a cheaper alternative.

Ohio Medicaid seeks proposal for 3rd party pharmacy benefits auditor

- This is an effort to increase transparency and accountability. "The POSV will ensure monetary incentives are properly and fairly aligned"
- The state is currently evaluating 6 bids

Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) has officially filed rules for how pharmacists will function as providers

- The filing sets Ohio up to be the next state that will begin broadly reimbursing pharmacists under their Medicaid system. However, unlike other states, Ohio will be one of the first to begin reimbursements without a legislative mandate due to strong advocacy efforts by MCOs – notably United Health care, Buckeye Health Plan, and Caresource.
- There are still ongoing discussions between OPA and ODM regarding revisions to rulings, such as opening up reimbursements of services to pharmacists with and without consult agreements.

Sen. Max Wise filed SB 50; which would carve all pharmacy benefits out of Medicaid managed care and return them to Medicaid Fee for Service.

- However, concerns of losing 340B reimbursements lead to amendments to the bill. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services proposed moving to a singular PBM that each Medicaid MCO would be required to contract with and pay the state established reimbursement rates.
- The house version of the bill also added "stop gap" measures, which ensure that as existing PBM contracts expire 12/31/2020, PBMs would not be allowed to reduce current reimbursements or create new fees.