

NEAMCP NEWS

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November 2021

From the President's Desk

I hope you all had a great summer and were able to take some time to relax and recharge with friends and family! After spending a year in lockdown, it was refreshing to be able to do some "normal" things again.

Despite the challenges we've faced this past year, I'm encouraged by the amount of engagement we've continued to have with education sessions and virtual networking. Our programming directors have gotten creative with new and exciting ways to engage the membership and as a result, we've had some of our most successful and highly attended programs to date. We were able to keep the momentum going at Nexus, where we were truly blown away by the turnout at the Northeast Affiliate meeting and the networking event at the Mountain Pass. It was incredible to see you all in person once again! Thanks to all of you, we left Denver feeling energized and full of new ideas to keep driving our organization forward. We have several positions on our board that will be coming up for election this year – if you are interested in joining or nominating someone else, please reach out. We would love to welcome you to the team!

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season for you and your families!

Nicole

NEAMCP Board Members

NEAMCP Welcomes Krishna Rana and Farzana Rahman

In April 2021, we held our board investiture for 2021 and welcome (or welcomed back) the following board members:

President-elect:
Farzana Rahman, RPh

Treasurer:
Krishna Rana, PharmD

Secretary:
Fatima Ali, PharmD

Programming Director:
Vera Richman

Co-Programming Directors:
Danee O'Donnell
Kristen Chopas



NEAMCP at NEXUS 2021

NEAMCP held its first in-person meeting since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic at the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center in Denver, CO.



Legislative Affairs

In April 2021, AMCP partnered with the Pharmaceutical and Supply Chain Management (PSPC) Coalition to ensure patient access for necessary medications. The PSPC urged the Biden administration to focus on solutions that foster relationships with international trade partners and advised that some existing measures could create a barrier to patient access. PSPC also advised CMS to provide clear guidance to COVID-19 vaccine administration sites to provide any necessary assistance and ensure vaccine administration is appropriately reimbursed and entered into the COVAX portal.

On April 14, President Biden signed legislation that would delay a 2% cut to Medicare payments until December 31, 2021. The CARES Act of 2020 introduced a temporary moratorium that was set to expire on December 31, 2020. The Medicare payment cuts resumed on April 1, but CMS instructed Medicare administrative contractors to hold all claims until the legislation was enacted.

In May 2021, AMCP signed onto comments submitted by the Pharmacy Health IT coalition on a proposed rule which made changes to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) to eliminate potential barriers to care coordination. These changes will help strengthen patients' rights to access their health information, improving information sharing, facilitate family and caregiver involvement, and enhance flexibilities for disclosures in emergency or health crises.

Student Chapter Update

The AMCP chapter at Rutgers University is dedicated to educating and spreading awareness about managed care pharmacy. The 2020-2021 academic year proved to hold many challenges when it came to academics and extracurricular activities. Adapting to a virtual setting was one of the main issues the AMCP chapter at Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University faced. The local AMCP chapter is known for its Annual Speed Networking Event. At this event, in normal circumstances, hundreds of students and professionals have the opportunity to have quick networking sessions, similar to the concept of Speed Dating.

With the semester being held virtually, the Speed Networking Committee was faced with the task of holding this event virtually. The logistics of having hundreds of students and professionals smoothly transition from networking with one individual to another proved to be a difficult task. Through the fall semester the committee explored various options to hold this event. Ultimately the committee decided that Zoom was the best platform to use, due to the familiarity individuals may have gained through the year. Pre-Covid-19 the Speed Networking Event usually had around 200+ RSVP'd attendees. This year the Speed Networking Committee, despite all the hurdles, was able to host a virtual event with 150+ RSVP'd attendees. The event ran smoothly being held virtually with a lot of positive feedback.

In addition, our patient care and healthcare literacy committees hosted various events to spread awareness about the COVID-19 pandemic and COVID-19 vaccines. Our fundraising committee dedicated its efforts to raising money for philanthropic organizations, and this year they raised money for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and Rutgers Against Hunger (RAH). The P&T coordinators are dedicated to preparing students for P&T competition, and this year 5 teams competed in the local P&T competition. The local AMCP chapter was able to team up with another pharmacy organization to organize an event where we invited professionals from managed care and other related fields to talk to our students about their daily functional roles in their respective fields.

As we are still in the midst of a pandemic, this academic year will be mainly virtual, but our chapter is prepared to continue hosting events with innovative measures to educate Rutgers students about managed care pharmacy.

Yash Thaker, EMSOP-AMCP President, PharmD.
Candidate 2022

Rutvi Patel, EMSOP-AMCP Treasurer PharmD.
Candidate 2023

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**.