

*The School of Pharmacy Relations Committee has developed some talking points that Diplomats may use when talking with faculty and Deans. If you have any suggestions, please email [studentdevelopment@amcp.org](mailto:studentdevelopment@amcp.org).*

**Question: What is managed care pharmacy?**

**Suggested Response:** The practice of managed care pharmacy applies clinical and scientific evidence to support the appropriate use of medications to enhance patient and population health outcomes while optimizing the use of limited health care resources. As we say at AMCP, it is about getting patients the medication they need at a cost they can afford. Managed care pharmacists work primarily in health plans, pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), integrated delivery networks (IDNs), and pharmaceutical companies. I'd be happy to sit down with anyone who is willing to learn more to talk about what this field is really all about.

**Concern: We don't have any qualified faculty to advise this organization.**

**Suggested Response:** Many resources are available to help prepare individuals to advise local chapters, including diplomats like me. I can help get you started and answer questions as they come up.

**Question: What resources exist to help expand managed care offerings within my program?**

**Suggested Response:** AMCP has updated the [Managed Care Pharmacy Curriculum](#) for institutions implementing a 16-week managed care elective course. The curriculum reflects the evolving managed care landscape and is built on the [Fundamentals of Managed Care Pharmacy](#). Bulk discounted pricing is available for over ten students.

[Numerous slide decks](#) are available for your use on various managed care topics. Additional resources can be found in the "What is managed care pharmacy?" [section of AMCP website](#).

**Question: Why do I need managed care within my program?**

**Suggested Response:** Managed care pharmacy provides students with an understanding of how healthcare systems, medication access, reimbursement, formulary management, population health, and value-based care impact patient outcomes. Incorporating managed care into the curriculum helps support ACPE educational outcomes by strengthening students' knowledge in healthcare delivery, interprofessional collaboration, evidence-based decision-making, and healthcare economics. Exposure to managed care also prepares students for a wide range of career opportunities and helps them better understand the evolving healthcare landscape, regardless of their future practice setting.

**Concern: There are too many organizations on our campus and not enough members.**

**Suggested Response:** AMCP offers students a great opportunity to get involved in a growing area of pharmacy practice. The skills they can obtain through this organization can help them in any field of practice. Many schools don't offer courses in managed care, so this is an excellent opportunity to teach students about this unique field outside the typical curriculum.

**Concern: Our pharmacy school must divide available funds amongst all the clubs evenly. Bringing more organizations to campus cuts funding for other organizations.**

**Suggested Response:** It is a tough issue. Existing job markets are becoming saturated and students need to differentiate themselves. This is their opportunity to develop interests in alternative areas of practice.

**Concern: The dues are too high for students.**

**Suggested Response:** Actually, AMCP is one of the least expensive organizations for students to join. Dues are only \$45/year. Student Pharmacist members are student pharmacists enrolled full-time in a school or college of pharmacy accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE).

**Question: What value does AMCP membership give to pharmacy students?**

**Suggested Response:** AMCP student pharmacists members have:

- All member benefits and discounts
- Access to numerous resources and online education on [www.amcp.org](http://www.amcp.org)
- Networking opportunities and special student programming at national and regional AMCP meetings
- Mentoring through our mock residency and mock fellowship interview program and the conference buddy program
- The chance to grow as professionals by participating in the AMCP Foundation P&T competition

