2012 Innovative Medication Adherence Educators Challenge

BACKGROUND

Since its inception in November 2004, the Joint Commission of Pharmacist Practitioners (JCPP) *Future Vision for Pharmacy Practice* charges pharmacists as “the health care professionals responsible for providing patient care that ensures optimal medication therapy outcomes” by the year 2015. Pharmacists must be able to assist patients in achieving and maintaining adherence to their medication in order to contribute to achieving this vision. In order to ensure this vision is carried forward, student pharmacists need to be prepared to enter into practice with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to respond to and improve patient medication adherence.

The National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) is working to show that by 2015, actions taken by community pharmacists will result in demonstrable improvement in patient medication adherence rates. To accomplish this goal, NCPA launched the Pharmacists Advancing Medication Adherence (PAMA) initiative. An element of PAMA is to collaborate with pharmacy academia by working with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) to develop and produce pharmacist graduates that embrace pharmacists’ role as medication adherence counselors as a core competency.

AACP institutions and members are committed to providing student pharmacists with relevant education, practice, and research information related to medication adherence. AACP has demonstrated its commitment to medication adherence in multiple ways. This includes being a committed partner of the National Consumer League’s *Script Your Future* national campaign, designed to increase awareness of medication adherence as well as being one of the three sponsors of the *Script Your Future* Advocacy Challenge, which engaged student pharmacists in the *Script Your Future* campaign and raised public awareness about adherence as a critical health issue.

INNOVATIVE MEDICATION ADHERENCE EDUCATORS CHALLENGE

College/School Medication Adherence Education Integration in the Curriculum

As medication adherence is an important issue in pharmacy education and practice, AACP and NCPA are collaborating in a project to better understand the innovative resources and teaching strategies of how medication adherence is or could be taught in schools/colleges of pharmacy. This challenge provides schools/colleges of pharmacy faculty the opportunity to share their medication adherence education tools as well as to strategically think about innovative medication adherence educational tools that could be utilized by pharmacy academia in the future. Potential educational tools for schools/colleges to submit for the challenge include:

- Tools that focus on adherence intervention strategies taught in didactic, laboratory, and experiential (includes IPPE’s and APPE’s) educational settings;
- Tools designed to assist students in planning and applying an intervention strategy;
- Tools for pharmacy preceptors that help facilitate, detect, and/or monitor adherence, especially at a busy clinical practice site;
- Tools used to teach medication adherence could include, but are not limited to, lecture, motivational interviewing, role playing, written patient cases, videos, textbook readings, guest speakers, coordinated refill models, and technology-based solutions.

The ultimate goal of the AACP-NCPA medication adherence education collaboration is to develop a repository of medication adherence educational tools for schools/colleges of pharmacy as well as other health profession programs.
Discussion and Development of Innovative Medication Adherence Education Tools: Medication Adherence Educators Symposium

NCPA will be hosting a 4-hour Medication Adherence Educators Symposium during the 2012 AACP Annual Meeting in Kissimmee, Florida on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. The objectives of the symposium are to:

1. Describe the current state of medication adherence education in schools/colleges of pharmacy
2. Examine and discuss learning tools that can be incorporated into pharmacy school curricula to prepare students to detect, monitor, and improve medication adherence in pharmacy practice
3. Assess and report on best practices for the use of adherence education tools

As part of this symposium, the submitters of three innovative medication adherence educator submissions will be selected to present their educational tool as part of a medication adherence education panel. Selection criteria will include innovation, originality, and interprofessional education capacity. The selection committee will be comprised of AACP and NCPA staff. The selected submission(s) authors will be contacted by mid-May 2012.

In addition to the panel participation, the submitters of the three selected submissions will be awarded a $500 honorarium which can be used to offset the costs of attending the AACP Annual Meeting. The school or college of pharmacy of each of the three selected submissions will also be awarded $1,000, which can be utilized to continue to enhance and develop medication adherence tools in the curriculum.

A description and/or illustration of select innovative medication adherence educators challenge submissions will be provided during the “breakout” session of the symposium, where continued discussion on the enhancement and continued development of innovative adherence education tools will be provided by symposium participants. In addition, each challenge submission and new tools generated from the symposium will be published on the AACP and/or NCPA website following the 2012 AACP Annual Meeting.

Each school/college is encouraged to participate in this challenge by submitting at least one innovative medication adherence educational tool. In addition, each school/college should plan on sending a faculty member who has responsibility for an aspect of medication adherence education to the medication adherence educators symposium. A symposium agenda as well as pre-registration for this symposium will be available in May 2012 and will be advertised via various AACP and NCPA communications. Full registrants for the 2012 AACP Annual Meeting are eligible to attend the symposium at no additional cost, but must pre-register for the symposium. A one-day meeting registration for Wednesday, July 18, 2012 will also be available.
MEDICATION ADHERENCE EDUCATORS CHALLENGE SUBMISSION FORMAT

A medication adherence education description for each tool that is applicable to your institution, either currently or in the future, should be submitted for the innovative medication adherence educators challenge. Schools/colleges are encouraged to submit more than one submission.

Please be sure to follow the format below for each medication adherence educators submission:

- College/School name
- Contact information (name, title, address, telephone number, e-mail address) of the educator at the institution available to answer questions regarding the educational tool from interested parties
- Status of the proposed educational tool (currently offered, in development, or concept/idea for future development)
- Description of the actual/proposed medication adherence educator tool
  - Include the components/types of activities, process, and personnel involved in the tool
  - Discuss how the tool is being or could be used in an interprofessional education environment
  - Provide illustration(s), PDF(s), or other descriptions that provide pertinent information of the tool
- Outcomes
  - Discuss how the tool contributes or could contribute to the focus on medication adherence training and the benefit(s) on stakeholders (i.e., student pharmacists, faculty, other health professional students and faculty, preceptors, patients)
  - Describe any outcomes that have been or could be tracked and evaluated for this tool (i.e., percentage of students enrolled) and provide citations for published literature regarding the tool benefit(s)
- Barriers
  - Discuss any actual or anticipated barriers (i.e., cost, resources, limited time in curriculum) for the implementation of the tool
- Advice or lessons learned
  - Describe considerations for schools/colleges seeking to implement this or a similar tool

Please limit each description to no more than two pages.

The deadline to receive your Medication Adherence Educator submission is March 30, 2012. Send submissions to Lynette Bradley-Baker at lbbaker@aacp.org

Challenge winners, who will present their submission during the Medication Adherence Educator Symposium, will be notified no later than May 15, 2012.

Please contact Lynette Bradley-Baker, AACP Director of Professional Alliance Development, at 703-739-2330, extension 1014 with any questions regarding this challenge.