PTCB’s New Certification and Recertification Requirements
Empowering Pharmacy Technicians

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Agenda

• Background
• Pharmacy Profession
• C.R.E.S.T. Initiative
• Program Changes
  – Certification Program Changes
  – Recertification Program Changes
• Open Forum
1. Please list factors that are changing the profession of pharmacy.
   a) Collaborative Practice Agreements
   b) Medication Therapy Management
   c) Accountable Care Act
   d) All of the above

True or False:

2. Pharmacy technician roles have been evolving to include assisting pharmacists in medication reconciliation and direct patient care activities.

3. All states have standard practice acts.

4. Over the next seven years PTCB will be implementing new program changes.

5. All of the implementation plans have been finalized.
PTCB’s History

• Governing Structure
  – Five state and national organizations
    • APhA, ASHP, NABP, ICHP, and MPA
  – Certification Council

• Professional Impact
  – 470,000 pharmacy technicians since 1995
  – 271,000 active certified pharmacy technicians

• No significant changes in program since 1995
Transitions of the Profession

• Pharmacy profession under pressure to change
  – Medication Therapy Management
  – Accountable Care Act
  – Accountable Care Organization
  – Medical Home model
  – Medicaid expansion
  – Collaborative practice
  – Provider status
Evolving Roles of Technicians

- Filling medication orders
- Compounding IVs
- Order entry
- Medication shortages
- Immunization assistance
- Supply chain management
- Informatics
- Transitions of Care
Figures are current as of December 31, 2012.

Since 1995, the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board has certified 484,039 pharmacy technicians through the exam and transfer process. This map represents the 271,794 pharmacy technicians currently active.

*Source: 2012 National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Survey of Pharmacy Law and independent research.
Moving Forward

Who or what is going to bridge the gap?

blog.kenexa.com
Collaborative Process

Who?
- State pharmacy associations
- State boards of pharmacy
- National pharmacy associations
- Hospitals and community pharmacies
- Individual pharmacy technicians and pharmacists

What?
- Collaborative movement
- Desire to move the profession forward
Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners (JCPP) Vision Statement for 2015

Pharmacists will be the health care professionals responsible for providing patient care that ensures optimal medication therapy outcomes.
C.R.E.S.T. Initiative

• C.R.E.S.T. Summit
  – Consumer Awareness
  – Resources
  – Education
  – State Policy
  – Testing

• National Surveys
PTCB Program Changes

New PTCB requirements to become initially certified:
• By 2020, PTCE candidates will be required to complete an ASHP-accredited education program
• Criminal background checks will be required in or around 2014

New PTCB requirements to become recertified:
• PTCB will require one of the 20 required CE hours to be in medication safety, in addition to one already required in law
• PTCB will only accept pharmacy-technician-targeted CE credit
• The number of CE courses allowed from college courses will be reduced and in-services will be reduced, then phased out
PTCB’s Goals

- Improve patient care, outcomes, and access
- Provide resources to further enable the evolution of pharmacy technician roles
- Elevate standards within the profession to meet the demands of the growing healthcare system
By 2020, successful completion of an ASHP-accredited education program will become a requirement for initial PTCB certification.

- Profession directed
- Program supply
- Quality and necessity of education
Background checks will be required for initial certification in, or around, 2014.

- Implementation process
- Synchronization with existing systems
- Individualized reviews
Recertification: Tech-specific CE

By 2015, only *pharmacy technician-specific* CE will be allowed for recertification.

- Requirements
- Availability of CE
- Programs that qualify
By 2014, one hour of medication safety CE will be added as a recertification requirement. One hour of pharmacy law CE will continue to be a requirement.

The number of CE hours that can be earned for recertification through college/university coursework will be decreased from 15 to 10 hours by 2016.

The allowable number of CE hours to be earned through in-services will be decreased from 10 to 5 in 2015, and from 5 to 0 in 2018.
Next Steps

- Open Comment Period
  - www.ptcb.org

- Additional Forums across the U.S.
  - Austin, TX
  - Charleston, SC
  - Monterey, CA
  - Madison, WI

- Publication of Policies and Procedures
Thoughts?

Please share your ideas on potential implementation plans.
Questions

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Thank you for your participation!

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