



**Summer 2020 E-Newsletter**

[Visit Our Website](#)



**A Message from Our President**

Dear Sherri:

This has been a very eventful first half of 2020. I want to again thank our members for the hard work and dedication you have demonstrated in the care of patients in the state of Connecticut during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and all that entails including drug shortages, changes in job responsibilities, and changes in policies that effect all pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and student in community, industry, and health system roles.

CSHP continues to work for you during this time of emergency. We continue to collaborate with ASHP and the FDA on a national level and other pharmacy organizations locally to make sure you have the resources you need to perform your job. We held the first CT Residency Conference and our annual Great Eight conference virtually, and I want to thank all of the residents, preceptors, and residency program directors across the state for making these such successful events. CSHP will continue to hold educational events virtually during 2020 including Catch the Wave and the Greg Gousse Residency Conference to keep our members safe, but to also provide great educational programming. Details are included in this NewsBrief.

As I've highlighted before, membership in CSHP is critical to sustaining our mission. Don't forget to renew or sign up for membership at [Join CSHP](#) or consider joining a committee by filling out this form: [Get Involved](#).

We also need to hear from you. Please feel free to provide any feedback on initiatives or things that you'd like to see us do. You can always reach out to your hospital ambassador or to me directly.

Thank you for all that you do!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lis Loh'.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### ASHP Needs Your Help

ASHP needs you to ask Congress to remove payment barriers for pharmacists to provide testing and vaccination services to Medicare beneficiaries. Urge Congress to include pharmacist reimbursement for COVID-19 testing and vaccination services for Medicare beneficiaries.



Over the past several months, states and federal regulatory agencies have pushed for pharmacists to be authorized to order and administer tests and provide vaccination services as part of the COVID-19 response. Now Congress needs to step up and remove payment barriers for pharmacists to provide these services to Medicare patients.

Please send a letter to your federal legislators urging them to allow pharmacist reimbursement in the next round of COVID-19 response legislation. Ask your colleagues in the pharmacy department to join you. Every voice counts!

For more information on the COVID-19 outbreak and tools to help you respond, please visit the [ASHP COVID-19 Resource Center](#).

[CLICK TO TAKE ACTION](#)

or copy this link in your browser.

<https://ashsp.ac360.aristotleactioncenter.com/#/alertId/ea759ea9-60c1-4979-af75-ae25d612f4a8/>

## INSIDE CSHP



### Honor Your Colleagues

**Nomination Deadline for CSHP's Annual Awards: Sept. 21, 2020 at 4 p.m.**

[Click for eligibility and a nominations form.](#)

CSHP Meritorious Team Achievement Award The CSHP Meritorious Team Achievement Award is given annually to a team of pharmacy professionals (with an active CSHP member) who has contributed to the enhancement of patient care by 1) initiating an innovative pharmacy service or 2) helping people achieve optimal health outcomes.

Paul G. Pierpaoli Award The Paul G. Pierpaoli Award is given annually to a CSHP member of the highest integrity who best exemplifies the profession of pharmacy through significant contributions, of a long-term nature, to the practice of pharmacy in Connecticut and the development of high standards of pharmacy practice.

Pharmacist of the Year The Pharmacist of the Year Award is given annually to a CSHP member of the highest integrity who best exemplifies the profession of pharmacy through their cooperation with the entire health care team, service to the profession of pharmacy and service to the community.

### CSHP Membership Ambassador Program Recruitment

Submitted by CSHP Membership Co-chairs [Charlie Jones](#), PharmD, and [Jason Lew](#), PharmD

Interested in being more involved in CSHP? Consider joining the new ambassador program!

- The program currently has ambassadors from 18 different hospitals across Connecticut, as well as the University of Connecticut-School of Pharmacy and University of Saint Joseph-School of Pharmacy.
- The goals of the ambassador program are to increase retention and promote the growth of new

membership.

- CSHP ambassadors are an energetic group of pharmacists and technicians that embodies the core values of CSHP. As ambassadors, they are not only the face of CSHP at their respective institution, but also play an integral role in the recruitment and retention of members. Ambassadors are the spokesperson for CSHP at their institution and assist with announcing CSHP events in person, staff meetings, newsletters, or department emails.
- The time commitment for this program would be expected to be less than one hour per month.

If you are interested in becoming an ambassador and being more involved in CSHP, please contact [Jason Lew](#) or [Charlie Jones](#).



### CSHP's Annual Election ... Plus

At the end of July, you will receive a ballot for the 2021 Board of Directors and a copy of the proposed revised bylaws. The Bylaws review, which took nearly a year to complete, was done with the following goals in mind.

1. Reflect current realities both of the Society's operations & governance, and contemporary non-profit management
2. Make it easier to reference specifics
3. Provide flexibility for updating
4. Delete redundant and no longer applicable sections

The proposed document has already undergone legal review by ASHP followed by a final review by the full CSHP leadership. We ask that when submitting your ballot for the 2021 Board, you also vote to approve our 21st Century bylaws.



### A Remedy for Social Distancing For members only!

In these challenging times of social distancing, it's important to stay in touch with other members including those at other facilities. Through the CSHP website, members may contact other members by email. Just log on (don't forget to set up your password) and enter a person's name.

Note: Your privacy is protected. Only your name with credentials and place of employment will be visible. No personal information or email address is revealed.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

*Catch the Wave*  
of quality continuing education

### Catch the Wave and Greg Gousse Resident Conference 2020

This year's Catch the Wave and Greg Gousse Conferences are going virtual! Due to COVID-19 and the uncertainty of what the Fall will bring, we've made the decision to hold these events virtually for this year. You will still be able to get the same high-quality continuing education, including a law CE. The conference will be spread across several evening sessions (instead of one full-day event), with options to register for just one, two, or all evenings. The Greg Gousse Resident Conference will be held on its own evening, ensuring that those who want to are able to attend both Greg Gousse and Catch the Wave sessions. More information will be available in the next few weeks!

### The Great 8 Resident Showcase

*Submitted by Abigail (Abby) Zeiner, PharmD, Director-at-Large*



On May 28th, CSHP presented its 8th Annual Residency Showcase, which is also known as "The Great Eight". This event coincided with the first Connecticut Residency Conference, during which CSHP resident members were invited to submit abstracts from which the top eight were selected to present.

This year, the following abstracts were presented at The Great Eight.

- 1st Place – “Assessment of automated antibiotic timeout on broad-spectrum antibiotic usage” by Andrew Fratoni, PharmD– PGY1 Pharmacy Resident– UConn Health
- 2nd Place – “Incidence and outcomes of hyperchloremia subsequent to hypertonic saline use” by Aaron Knopp, PharmD– PGY1 Pharmacy Resident– Yale–New Haven Hospital
- 3rd Place – “Impact of antimicrobial stewardship education using a de-identified, provider-specific prescribing scorecard on outpatient antibiotic prescribing practices” by Jillian Barrack, PharmD– PGY2 Ambulatory Care Resident– Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center

To read the above winning abstracts, click on this link <https://cshponline.org/Residency-Networking/9033485>

Honorable Mentions – [Click to read the following abstracts.](#)

- “Transitioning from Dexmedetomidine Infusion with the Use of Enteral Clonidine” by Cynthia Cheung, PharmD– PGY2 Critical Care Resident– Yale–New Haven Hospital
- “Phenobarbital fixed-dose schedule compared with a lorazepam-based intensive care unit symptom-triggered alcohol withdrawal protocol” by Lynn Germaske, PharmD– PGY1 Pharmacy Resident– VA Connecticut Healthcare System
- “Utilization of pharmacy student trainees to assist with patient discharge education on oral anticoagulation therapy “ by Allissa Long, PharmD– PGY1 Pharmacy Resident– Uconn Health
- “Evaluation of cytomegalovirus prophylaxis in low and intermediate-risk kidney transplant recipients receiving lymphocyte-depleting induction” by Hillary Stamps, PharmD– PGY1 Pharmacy Resident, Hartford Hospital
- “Implementation of a Clostridioides difficile secondary prophylaxis protocol in an academic medical center“ by Megan Wein, PharmD– PGY1 Pharmacy Resident, Uconn Health

---

### First Connecticut Residency Conference

*submitted by Colleen Teevan, PharmD , Director-at-Large*



With the cancellation of the Eastern States Residency Conference, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, residents around the state needed an alternative venue to present their residency projects. CSHP stepped in and organized the 1<sup>st</sup> CT Residency Conference for all PGY1 and PGY2 residents in the state, held virtually on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Over the course of the daytime event, 54 residents presented platform presentations and 7 residents presented posters. Eight additional residents presented as part of The Great 8 CE program that evening.

Over the course of the day, we had 220 participants who attended presentations for an average of three hours each. Over 120 evaluations were completed, providing valuable feedback to our residents. A special thanks goes out to all of the residency directors, preceptors, and pharmacists from around the state who served as session moderators and designated providers of feedback. We could not have pulled this event off without your help!

We greatly appreciate all of the comments and feedback we've received following the event and we look forward to making this an annual event (hopefully in person next year)!

---

## SPECIAL FEATURE

### What's New with Cholesterol? A Review of Updates for Prevention of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease

*submitted by Alexander Arau, PharmD, and Corinne Consolini, PharmD, BCACP, Hartford Hospital*

#### Introduction

Atherosclerosis is a leading cause of cardiovascular disease (CVD) in the US. CVD of atherosclerotic origin, including peripheral artery disease, stroke, trans ischemic attack, acute coronary syndromes, and stable angina, are collectively termed atherosclerotic CVD (ASCVD). Hyperlipidemia has been identified as a significant risk factor for the development of ASCVD.<sup>1</sup> Correspondingly, management of blood cholesterol including total serum cholesterol and its lipoprotein carriers, low-density lipoprotein (LDL), very low-density lipoprotein (VLDL), high-density lipoprotein (HDL), is important for reducing the risk of ASCVD.<sup>1</sup> In addition to serum cholesterol laboratory values, there are numerous additional factors which have been implicated in patients' ASCVD risk profiles. These risks have been classified as either major risk factors or risk enhancers.<sup>1</sup> Collectively, evaluation of patient's serum cholesterol and additional risks is used to determine patient-specific ASCVD risk.

[CLICK to read the full article](#)

---

## STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS



*Submitted by: Lauren Bronson, PharmD Candidate 2022; Student Chapter President*

Our spring semester ended with Zoom lectures and online exams. With this summer more than half-way through, and the fall semester quickly approaching on August 31st, we are looking forward to the upcoming year and the many events that we are planning (COVID-19 dependent). All of us here at UCONN CSHP will be excited to get back to campus safely for the fall semester.

We are hoping to kick off the fall semester with our monthly Florence Mill Blood Pressure Clinic. This is an excellent way for students to dust off their clinical skills after the summer break. Located in the Florence Mills Apartment in Vernon, CT, this clinic is the perfect opportunity for our student pharmacists to obtain invaluable, hands-on experience in a clinic-based situation.

As for the rest of the semester, we are looking forward to many upcoming events including our Clinical Skills Competition, hospital site visits, poison prevention presentations, Clinical Specialist Panel, and much more! Our first general meeting for UCONN CSHP will be held on September 8th at 5:00 pm. We are excited to see new and returning faces this fall, whether it be over Zoom or in person!



*Submitted by Jenessa Teta; PharmD Candidate, 2022; ASHP-SSHP President, 2020-2021; APhA-ASP, Vice President 2020-202.*

Despite COVID-19 throwing a wrench in our plans for the end of spring and summer semesters, the new USJ e-board remains hopeful that we will return to campus and start the fall semester on a high note. The Class of 2021 has officially begun their APPE rotations, and we wish them success as they continue their endeavors. The Class of 2022 is adapting to online learning. It is thankful for the faculty who are going above and beyond to ensure we are adequately learning our material not to hinder our progress. We are looking forward to the opportunity to host more "Lunch and Learns" with faculty and guest speakers when we return to school. The new e-board is readily planning fundraisers and events for our return. Be prepared to purchase some pies from Lyman Orchard and cookie dough from Spunkmeyer this fall! We are excited about welcoming the incoming class and anticipate a great group of new members will join our organization. We hope everyone has a safe and fun summer!

---

### CSHP is your professional community.

For over 70 years, we have represented the interests of health-system pharmacy professionals and those training to enter the profession. We provide professional development opportunities, advocacy and a community for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, aspiring pharmacists and our industry partners.

We invite all members to become active participants in CSHP.

Click to [Activate your membership](#) and please encourage your colleagues to join us.

Have you just completed a residency and started a new job? Did you graduate last spring and are now a resident? Please log into your contact listing on the CSHP web site and update your information. We also encourage you to update your membership status: Resident to Active Pharmacist; Student to Resident or Active Pharmacist.

[JOIN CSHP](#)

***Our Value Statement*** CSHP provides you with a community of pharmacy professionals who share their time, resources, and expertise to work together toward a common goal of professional growth and enhanced patient outcomes.

[CONTACT CSHP](#)

Connecticut Society of Health-System Pharmacists | [office@cshponline.org](mailto:office@cshponline.org), 888/506-3784, 591 North Avenue Suite 3-2, Wakefield, MA 01880