

May 2019

CPS Friends and Colleagues,

Happy Spring! I hope this brief letter finds you all well. I wanted to touch base on a few things!

Let me be the first to tell you what a **SUCCESSFUL 2019 legislative session** CPS just wrapped up! First and foremost, we passed our Pharmacy Technician Regulation bill! I commend so many individuals including our Technician Regulation Workforce, our Legislative Committee, our lobbyist, and many CPS members for working hard for over 2 years to make this happen. We are proud to support our technicians in their professional lives, and confident this will help ensure patient safety in CO! I'd also highlight that we helped pass new payment requirements for mandatory counseling of opioid-naïve patients, emergency prescription refill authorization, capping out of pocket insulin prices for consumers, mandatory controlled substance electronic prescribing and drug pricing transparency legislation! Wow – great work CPS!! Thanks for all who helped, and please scroll down to the end of this message to read details on these new CO laws!

Next, are you registered for the **CPS Annual Meeting in June in Black Hawk**? If you've never been to our annual meeting before, let me personally invite you! It is a fun, positive and energizing experience. It's also our annual meeting of our membership, and our business, awards and installation meeting – lots of happy moments, great CEs, and practice updates. Did you hear the CEO of the American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (ASHP), Paul Abramowitz, is one of our Keynote speakers? And our other Keynote speaker is Jeannine Dickerhofe, a long-respected member of our Colorado pharmacy community. Wow! [See our schedule and register here](#). It's a small getaway but a huge networking experience! And did I mention that someone commented at our last conference "the quality of speakers at CPS meetings are higher than I see at national conferences"?...

Finally, I'm so happy to report we have seen steady **membership growth** over the past 6 months! We've seen more engagement and over 10% growth month over month since January. I love seeing CO pharmacists engaging in their local pharmacy community. If you don't remember my challenge earlier this year, it is this: each member gets one additional person to join CPS. **Who's your person?** 😊 Or, if you are an organization, business, department, etc. and want to do a group membership – let me know – there are additional discounts and benefits available. Remember – One Society, One Voice!

A few last thoughts:

- Please join me and other CPS colleagues, friends and family at the **CPS Day at the Rockies** game coming on June 2, 2019! Details on the CPS [homepage](#).
- We will have a charitable networking event to help rebuild a hiking trail in Summit County August 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Save the date - details to come!
- Make sure you're reading the biweekly e-newsletter – so much good stuff and opportunities!

- Make sure your CPS profile is updated so you get all our communications.
- And as always, I and your Board of Directors value your input and your involvement to help CPS grow and benefit its members. Email me anytime.

Best wishes,

Emily



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### **CPS Legislative Highlights**

**HB19-1242, Board of Pharmacy Regulate Pharmacy Technicians**, requires pharmacy technicians practicing in Colorado on or after March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to obtain a certification from the state board of pharmacy. It has been sent to the Governor and awaits signing.

**HB19-1077, Pharmacist Dispense Drug Without Prescription in Emergency**, allows a pharmacist to dispense an emergency supply of a chronic maintenance drug, or a rescue medication, to a patient without a prescription in limited circumstances. The Governor signed the bill on March 21<sup>st</sup> and this law went into effect immediately.

**HB19-1131, Prescription Drug Cost Education**, requires a drug manufacturer, or a representative, agent, or an employee of the manufacturer, who while employed by or under contract to represent a manufacturer engages in prescription drug marketing, to provide, in writing, the wholesale acquisition cost of a prescription drug to a prescriber with whom the manufacturer, representative, agent, or employee is sharing information concerning the drug. This was signed by the Governor on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**HB19-1216, Reduce Insulin Prices**, caps the cost sharing a covered person is required to pay for prescription insulin drugs to \$100 per one-month supply of insulin. It has been sent to the Governor.

**SB19-079, Mandatory Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances**, this bill requires all prescribers to use electronic prescribing to prescribe a schedule II, III or IV drugs beginning (for

most) July 1, 2021; dentists and solo practitioners have an extension until July 1, 2023. This bill was signed by the Governor.

***SB19-228, Substance Use Disorders Prevention Measures***, requires opioid prescriptions to bear warning labels on the risk of overdose and addiction; requires counseling of the risks of opioids by a pharmacist on all CII and CIII opioid prescriptions if the patient is opioid naïve, and mandates payment of an “enhanced dispensing fee” for doing so; requires certain prescribers to complete substance use disorder training; prohibits prescribers from accepting benefits for prescribing specific medications; allows medical examiners and coroners access to the prescription drug monitoring program; authorizes the department of human services to conduct substance use research; provides funding to address opioid and substance use disorders through public health interventions in local communities; requires state departments to report receipt and eligibility for federal funds for HIV and hepatitis testing; and requires the center for research into substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery support strategies to develop and implement a program to increase public awareness concerning the safe use, storage, and disposal of antagonist drugs. This bill awaits final signature by the Governor.