

Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties

2215 Constitution Avenue, NW • Washington, DC 20037 • (202) 429-7591 • (202) 429-6304 FAX • www.bpsweb.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 3, 2007

BPS NR #2007-06

Contact: Ryan Abel

bps@aphanet.org

202-429-7591

BPS ANNOUNCES REVISIONS TO RECERTIFICATION OPTIONS FOR BOARD CERTIFIED PSYCHIATRIC PHARMACISTS

(Washington, DC) -- The Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS), an organization whose purpose is to recognize pharmacy specialties and certify pharmacists' knowledge and skills, recently approved several changes to the recertification options available to Board Certified Psychiatric Pharmacists (BCPP). These changes (recommended by the BPS Specialty Council on Psychiatric Pharmacy) are detailed below:

- **Reduction in Recertification Hour Requirements:** Effective 1/1/2008, BCPPs recertifying via continuing education will be required to successfully complete 100 hours of approved recertification programming over the 7-year recertification cycle. This is reduced from the current requirement of 120 hours.
- **Recertification Education Provider:** Effective 1/1/2008, the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) will be serving as the sole provider of BCPP recertification programming. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) has elected to discontinue providing the Psychiatric Pharmacy Professional Development Program and has recommended CPNP as the continuing provider of this programming.

News Release

- Recertification Programming Options: BCPPs will now have 3 recertification components to select from annually through CPNP to meet the 100-hour recertification requirement.
 - BCPP Examination Review and Recertification Course: Using the ASHP curriculum as a base, this distance education program will now provide 20 hours of review programming (Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education and Recertification approved). This course is ideal for pharmacists preparing to sit for the BCPP examination but also offers a strong review of standards of care for the psychiatric pharmacy specialist. Recertifying BCPPs can use the Review Course for recertification credit no more than once in their 7-year recertification cycle. A workbook only study option is available to pharmacists preparing to sit for the BCPP examination. See http://cpnp.org/recertification/bcpp/review_course.htm for additional information.
 - BCPP Recertification Live Programming: CPNP will continue to provide recertification approved programming at each CPNP Annual Meeting. Live programming will now cover all three domains contained in the BCPP content outline. This component will continue to be available as a distance education option as well with live presentations offered on CD-ROM. A minimum of five hours and a maximum of ten hours of live programming will be offered annually. CPNP will also be working to offer recertification programming at additional meetings outside of the CPNP Annual Meeting no later than 2009. See http://cpnp.org/recertification/bcpp/2008_programming.htm for additional information.
 - BCPP Recertification Literature Analysis: CPNP will continue to provide a recertification approved literature analysis component that will now cover all three BCPP domains contained in the content outline. A minimum of 10 hours and a maximum of 15 hours will be

offered via literature analysis annually. See

http://cpnp.org/recertification/bcpp/2008_programming.htm for additional information.

Specific questions concerning recertification educational programming should be directed to CPNP Executive Director Brenda Schimenti at 402-476-1677 or at bschimenti@cpnp.org.

Additional resources for BCPPs or BCPP candidates are available at the following links:

- BPS: www.bpsweb.org
- Certification FAQs: http://cpnp.org/recertification/bcpp/faq_certification.htm
- Recertification FAQs: http://cpnp.org/recertification/bcpp/faq_recertification.htm
- 2008 Recertification Registration: <http://cpnp.org/recertification/bcpp/registration.htm>
- Individual Transcripts of Recertification Hours Accumulated (search on ACPE and BCPP credit type): <http://cpnp.org/ed/statement/>

The **Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS)** was founded by the American Pharmaceutical Association (now the American Pharmacists Association; APhA) in January 1976 to recognize specialties and certify pharmacists in specialized areas of pharmacy practice. Five specialties are currently recognized by BPS: 1) nuclear pharmacy, since 1978; 2) nutrition support pharmacy, since 1988; 3) pharmacotherapy, since 1988; 4) psychiatric pharmacy, since 1992; and 5) oncology pharmacy, since 1996. Currently, there are nearly 7,000 pharmacist specialists certified by BPS.
