

Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 21, 2009

BPS NR #2009-12

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Results of BPS Examinations Announced

(Washington, DC) -- The Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS), an agency whose purpose is to recognize pharmacy specialties and certify pharmacists' knowledge and skills at the advanced practice level, announces the results of the October 4, 2009 specialty certification and recertification examinations. These examinations were administered to a record high number of 2100 pharmacists at 37 sites in the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii) in addition to Al Ain, United Arab Emirates; Bangkok, Thailand; Beirut, Lebanon; Collingwood (Victoria) Australia; Cairo, Egypt; Florence, Italy; Madrid, Spain; Montreal (Quebec) Canada; Riyadh and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Seoul, South Korea; Singapore; Toronto (Ontario) Canada; and four DANTES military sites in Germany, Guam, Iraq, and Qatar. Re-certifications using a continuing education option will be announced separately in February 2010.

Nuclear Pharmacy – 17 of 24 candidates were certified for the first time. Currently there are 516 Board Certified Nuclear Pharmacists (BCNP).

Nutrition Support Pharmacy – 45 of 64 candidates were certified for the first time. Currently there are 440 Board Certified Nutrition Support Pharmacists (BCNSP). 26 of 28 candidates were recertified by examination.

Oncology Pharmacy – 124 of 240 candidates were certified for the first time. Currently there are 969 Board Certified Oncology Pharmacists (BCOP). 9 of 11 candidates were recertified by examination.

Pharmacotherapy – 1198 of 1709 candidates were certified for the first time. Currently there are 6712 Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialists (BCPS). 58 of 59 candidates were recertified by examination.

Psychiatric Pharmacy – 47 of 63 candidates were certified. Currently there are 587 Board Certified Psychiatric Pharmacists (BCPP). 13 of 13 candidates were recertified by examination.

Detailed information on the BPS Examination Scoring Process is available on the BPS Web site (www.bpsweb.org) under the "Exam Information" topic.

To be certified, candidates must meet the following eligibility requirements.

- Nuclear Pharmacy:** entry-level pharmacy degree;
current, active license as pharmacist;
4,000 hours of training/experience in nuclear pharmacy;
passing the specialty certification examination.
- Nutrition Support Pharmacy:** entry-level pharmacy degree;
current, active license as pharmacist;
three years practice experience or equivalent
(including residency training);
passing the specialty certification examination.
- Oncology Pharmacy:** entry-level pharmacy degree;
current, active license as pharmacist;
three years practice experience or equivalent
(including residency training);
passing the specialty certification examination.
- Pharmacotherapy:** entry-level pharmacy degree ;
current, active license as pharmacist;
three years practice experience or equivalent
(including residency training);
passing the specialty certification examination.
- Psychiatric Pharmacy:** entry-level pharmacy degree;
current, active license as pharmacist;
four years practice experience or equivalent
(including residency training);
passing the specialty certification examination.

"BPS congratulates all those who achieved a passing score on the 2009 specialty certification and recertification examinations," states BPS Executive Director, Dr. Richard J. Bertin. "These individuals possess a level of training, experience, knowledge and skill that is deemed essential to providing advanced level pharmaceutical care. They have met a rigorous national standard. They and their employers can be justifiably proud of this accomplishment."

(Pharmacists certified and recertified by examination by BPS in 2009 are listed in an addendum to this News Release)

The **Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS)** is an autonomous Division of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), founded in January 1976 to recognize specialties and certify pharmacists in specialized areas of pharmacy practice. Six specialties are currently recognized by BPS, including: 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. The latest BPS specialty, focused on ambulatory care pharmacy, was approved in June 2009, and is scheduled for its first examination in 2011. More than 9000 pharmacist specialists are currently certified by BPS.
