

Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties

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BPS Changes its Name

(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, wishes to notify the pharmacy profession and the public that it will henceforth be known as the Board of Pharmacy Specialties, effective April 1, 2010. It will retain the same acronym (BPS) and logo.

This change was in keeping with recent changes made by other organizations within the pharmacy profession to highlight the name of the profession and the practice of its members. In response to a request from the BPS Board, the Board of Trustees of the American Pharmacists Association approved this action in January, 2010. At its recent meeting in Washington, DC, the BPS Board established an implementation plan, which is expected to be fully completed within approximately six months.

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 sixth 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.
