



September 2016  
Volume 1, Issue 2

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# Washington Metropolitan Society of Health System Pharmacists Newsletter



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the second 2016 edition of the Washington Metropolitan Society of Health-System Pharmacists (WMSHP) Newsletter. My appreciation and thanks to all of you for your continued participation and support of our programs in 2016. I would like to draw your attention and interest to the all-day Fall WMSHP educational program that will be held on Saturday September 17, 2016, at the University of Maryland Shady Grove Campus, Rockville, MD. This program seminar will provide up to six (6) hours of quality ACPE-approved educational credits by an excellent panel of speakers for pharmacists and technicians. WMSHP will also have a membership drive at the September 17<sup>th</sup> seminar program for new members to join with special rates that will cover membership for pharmacists, technicians and students

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from September 2016 through December 2017 *at one low price*. Please check the link in the newsletter for the WMSHP September 2016 Program Flyer for further details that is also found in the WMSHP website ([www.wmshp.org](http://www.wmshp.org)) to RSVP and attend and join on-line or in-person. Please communicate the September 17<sup>th</sup> seminar program to your colleagues and fellow pharmacists at your workplaces to join WMSHP and attend this educational seminar offering educational sessions on medication safety, medication errors in chemotherapy, oncology, vancomycin pharmacokinetics, FDA drug information resources and pharmacy law. The WMSHP embodies a diverse membership that includes pharmacists and pharmacy personnel from federal agencies (DoD, FDA, NIH, VA, et al), university teaching and clinical health-systems and ambulatory care clinics, academia, community and healthcare systems pharmacy practices and, retired pharmacists. As the premier metropolitan society with members from DC, MD, and VA, WMSHP has over the years, and in 2016 continued to develop programs that are designed to equip our future pharmacy colleagues with skills and confidence to work

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effectively in teams that are essential for the efficient management of any healthcare system or organization. The 2015 and 2016 years were significant as WMSHP collaborated and partnered with the University of Maryland (UMD) Student Society of Hospital Pharmacy (SSHP) to organize educational, student mentoring and tracking programs from November 2015 to September 2016. WMSHP is also outreaching with the Howard University and UMD Eastern Shore (UMES) Schools of Pharmacy to collaborate for student involvement. WMSHP hopes to continue in the remainder of 2016 by holding a combined student-pharmacist mentoring and educational program in November 2016 and a number of non-CE disease state educational programs. Look for details in the WMSHP website.

Please feel free to pass on this newsletter to your pharmacy colleagues to join WMSHP and become involved in WMSHP committees and program activities listed in the WMSHP website.

With kind regards.

Puri

Vaiyapuri Subramaniam, PharmD,  
MS, FCP, FASHP, FASCP.  
President, WMSHP



### Goals of the President Elect Justin Sebakijje PharmD

Under my tenure, I will bring to the table an increased level of active participation drawn from our current membership as well as new members brought forth through active recruitment. I plan to strengthen and expand key committee roles by exploring new and innovative avenues within our profession. These avenues will include increased student participation drawn from affiliate networks fostered over many years throughout my active career. In addition, I plan to continue our role as educators by pursuing both CE and non-CE events in order to increase knowledge and awareness within the field of pharmacy. Furthermore, I will draw on new technology such as webinar-based programs to cast a wider net of involvement for all interested parties. I recognize that our organization is more than just a constellation of pharmacists, but moreover a society of unique

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## Upcoming Events

[www.wmshp.org](http://www.wmshp.org)

**Saturday, September 17, 2016**

**All day seminar**

**University of Maryland  
Shady Grove Campus  
Rockville MD**

**Event name: *Enhancing  
Pharmacotherapeutics and  
Management Standards***

6 hours of CE see website for costs

[http://wmshp.org/sg\\_current\\_event\\_content\\_new/2016-09-17/wmshp\\_2016-09-17.pdf](http://wmshp.org/sg_current_event_content_new/2016-09-17/wmshp_2016-09-17.pdf)

### **Non-CE Disease Presentation and Dinner:**

Program title: "Treatment Options for Your Patients Requiring Urgent Warfarin Reversal: A Case-based Presentation"

(Sponsored by CSL Behring).

Speaker: Dr. Karen Berger, Clinical Pharmacy Manager, Critical Care New York

Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York.

Date and Time: 6:30 pm October 6, 2016.

Location: Capital Grille, 5310 Western Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD

**Must RSVP:** to Yildiz Voyles at [yildiz.voyles@cslbehring.com](mailto:yildiz.voyles@cslbehring.com)

*Note: Seating limited to the first 25 attendees only RSVPs and admission are on a first-come basis only. If a member is unable to attend after being confirmed to attend, the member must email Yildiz Voyles so that an alternate attendee can attend this event in the waiting list.*

professionals. As such, I hope to foster an environment of friendship and mutual respect by strengthening our social bond through the continuation of key social events such as our annual picnic. Thank you and I look forward to making this year a cornerstone year in the continued legacy that is the

## Clinical Corner

### Low-Dose versus Standard-Dose Intravenous Alteplase in Acute Ischemic Stroke (NEJM; June 16, 2016; Vol. 374; No. 24).

Thrombolytic therapy in the treatment of acute ischemic stroke using a lower than standard dose of intravenous Alteplase was not shown to be noninferior and resulted in fewer cases of symptomatic intracerebral hemorrhage. The study method utilized a 2-by-2 quasi-factorial open-label design enrolling a total of 3310 patients (median age 67; 63% Asian; 38% women). The participants were randomly assigned to low-dose intravenous Alteplase arm (0.6 mg/kg; 15% as bolus and 85% as infusion over 60 min; max dose 60 mg) or the standard-dose intravenous Alteplase arm (0.9 mg/kg; 10% as bolus and 90% as infusion over 60 min; max dose 90 mg). The primary objective of the study was to determine if the low-dose arm would be noninferior to the standard-dose arm given the primary outcome of death or disability at 90 days. The secondary objective was to determine if the low-dose arm would be superior to the standard-

dose arm with respect to symptomatic intracerebral hemorrhage. The results of the study showed the primary outcome occurred in 53.2% of participants in the low-dose arm and 51.1% in the standard-dose arm (odds ratio: 1.09; 95% CI .95 to 1.25- exceeding noninferiority margin of 1.14;  $p=0.51$  for noninferiority). Major symptomatic intracerebral hemorrhage occurred in 1.0% of participants in the low-dose arm and 2.1% of participants in the standard-dose arm ( $p=0.01$ ). The authors concluded that this trial comprised of predominantly Asian participants with an acute ischemic stroke did not show noninferiority of low-dose Alteplase with regards to death and disability at 90 days. In addition, there were significantly fewer symptomatic intracerebral hemorrhages with the low-dose Alteplase arm. This study was funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (ENCHANTED ClinicalTrials.gov number NCT91422616).



Raffle at May 15 Educational Program Seminar

## Board Proposes Changes to the Constitution & By-Laws Dominic Solimando Jr., M.A., BCOP

The Board has approved sending a revision of the WMSHP Constitution and By-Laws to the members for comment. This represents the first revision of these documents in at least the last 20 years. The Board was unable to document when the current By-Laws were adopted. The current By-Laws, as posted on the WMSHP webpage have been in existence since sometime before the year 1999, and do not reflect current practices. One example of this is the use of electronic voting which the Society has been using for several years. The Board is also recommending several substantive changes; among these are:

1. Eliminate "Honorary Life Member" as a membership category. This would now be listed as an award bestowed on deserving individuals for their contributions to the organization (Article 3.1.2.4)
2. Create separate membership categories for technicians and pharmacy students. Rather than being included in the "Associate member" category, each group

would be in a separate section (Articles 3.13 and 3.1.4)

3. Add the 2 delegates to the ASHP House of Delegates, a technician and a pharmacy student to the WMSHP Board of Directors. This would increase the Board from 7 to 11 members. One issue for which the Board would like feedback from the members is whether the student and technician Board members should be able to vote on matter before the Board or should just be observers (Article 5.1)
4. If the technician or student position on the Board be approved, should these individuals be elected by the entire membership of the Society, or just the members of their respective section?
5. Should technicians and students be allowed to vote for all society officers, or just the Board member from their section? (3.11 3.1.3 and 3.1.4)
6. Should technicians and student members be allowed to :
  - a. Vote for changes to the Constitution and By-Laws
  - b. Vote for Offices and At-Large Board members of the Society
  - c. Serve as Secretary, Treasurer or Board

### Member-at Large of WMSHP

The current Constitution and By-Laws are posted on the WMSHP website. The proposed revision will soon be sent to all members in an email which will also contain a form for members to comment. The Board will review all comments, make any adjustments to the proposed changes and submit a final version to the membership for approval.

### Meeting between WMSHP President and Dean of Howard University College of Pharmacy:

Howard University College of Pharmacy (HU COP) Dean Dr. Toyin Tofade, PharmD and WMSHP President Dr. Vaiyapuri Subramaniam, PharmD, had an opportunity to meet at the 2016 FIP World Congress of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Both Dr. Tofade and Dr. Subramaniam discussed opportunities and prospects to enhance further collaboration and partnerships between HU COP and the Washington Metropolitan Society of Health-System Pharmacists (WMSHP). The purpose is to promote and continue representation of HU COP students as part of WMSHP's initiatives of increasing pharmacy students' engagement for career building, mentoring, and student leadership in the upcoming months and

2017 going forward. As part of WMSHP's outreach with Washington DC area pharmacy schools, students can join and take advantage from opportunities from WMSHP's offerings for students and pharmacists in career building, involvement and leadership. Dr. Tofade will discuss this meeting and her plans for student involvement in her Howard University Pharmacy College Newsletter.



Dr. Toyin Tofade Dean of Howard University College of Pharmacy with WMSHP President Subramaniam