



“The Arkansas Pharmacy Support Group (ARPSG): Development and Operational Construct”

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APhA History of PRN Programs

At the APhA Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV., April 24-28, 1982, the House of Delegates adopted the following policy:

1. APhA believes that pharmacists should not practice while subject to physical or mental impairment due to the influence of drugs -- including alcohol -- or other causes that might adversely affect their abilities to function properly in their professional capacities.
2. APhA supports establishment of counseling, treatment, prevention, and rehabilitation programs for pharmacists and pharmacy students who are subject to physical or mental impairment due to the influence of drugs -- including alcohol -- or other causes, when such impairment has potential for adversely affecting their abilities to function properly in their professional capacities.



Health Professionals -vs- General Population

- 6 times more likely to become addicted to prescription medication
- 24 times more likely to become addicted to i.v. drugs
- 85% self-medicate
- Feel that they know too much to ever become addicted

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ARPSG History

- 1980s Activity of the Executive Director of the Arkansas Board of Pharmacy (ABP)
- 1987 Board requested several pharmacists in recovery to serve as a support group
- 1991 Arkansas Code Ann. (§17-92-701) established ARPSG {Regulation 10 ABP}



ARPSG Structure