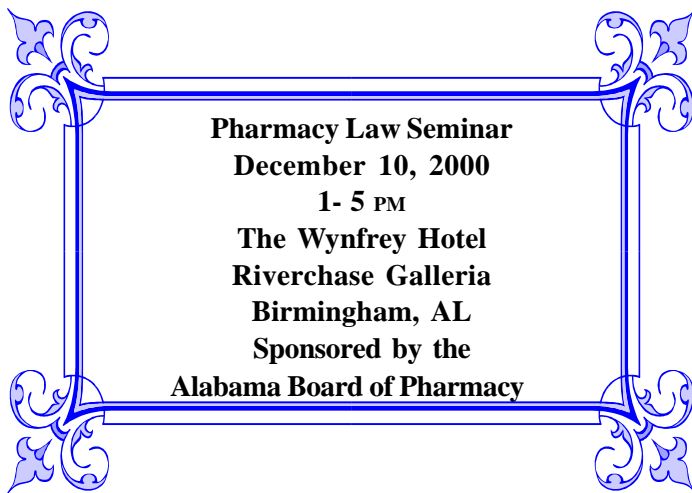


Alabama State Board of Pharmacy

1 Perimeter Park South, Suite 425 So.
Birmingham, AL 35243
Tel: 205/967-0130 Fax: 205/970-6846

Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

Alabama Pharmacy Law Seminar



Free Continuing Education (3 Contact Hours)

This is your opportunity to learn the most recent updates in pharmacy law from the experts.

- ◆ Free Continuing Education
- ◆ Updates in Pharmacy Law
- ◆ Limited Seating Available
- ◆ Meet Board Members

The seminar is being held at The Wynfrey Hotel, Riverchase Galleria, 1000 Riverchase Galleria, Birmingham, AL 35244. If you need overnight accommodations, call the hotel directly at 205/987-1600 or 1-800/476-7006.

Make reservations as soon as possible to receive the reduced room rate of \$109.

Call the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy at 205/967-0130 to make advance reservations. Seating is limited to 300 persons. Pharmacists will receive preference for registration. If seating is available, technicians and intern/externs will have the opportunity to attend.

Supervising Pharmacist

The Board of Pharmacy continues to see case after case of controlled substances diversion by pharmacists or technician for their own personal use or for sale to others for profit. Many of these cases of diversion could have been prevented had the supervising pharmacist been more attentive and responsible for the activities occurring in the pharmacy.

When one accepts the responsibility of the supervising pharmacist, it should not be taken lightly. The supervising pharmacist accepts the responsibility for the prescription department, personnel, records, and security. He or she is also responsible for assuring good pharmacy practice and compliance with all laws and regulations.

When a pharmacist assumes the duties of the supervising pharmacist, he or she must notify the Board within ten (10) days. Also, the new supervising pharmacist must take an inventory of all controlled substances to establish a baseline of responsibility for these drugs.

Tablet Splitting

A number of insurance plans are requiring pharmacists to dispense medications in a higher dose than prescribed and then having the pharmacist split the tablets in half to deliver the original dose. The pharmacist then makes changes to the directions for administration to coincide with the change in the tablet strength.

These practices may not always be in the best interest of the patient. Tablets that are not scored most likely will not split in such a manner as to provide a uniform dose. Tablets that are coated may also present problems. Once the tablet is split, the effect of the coating may be compromised.

Pharmacists need to make sure that, if a change in the prescription occurs due to using a strength different than originally called for, the prescribing practitioner must approve the change.

Continued on page 4

In addition, the patient should receive detailed counseling to ensure that the patient understands any changes made to the prescription.

USP Revises Unit Dose Beyond-Use Dating Recommendations

The US Pharmacopeia (USP) recently updated its recommendation for beyond-use dating requirements for nonsterile solid and liquid dosage forms packaged in single-unit and unit-dose containers. The new recommendation for beyond-use dating for these products will be one year or less, unless stability data or the manufacturer's label indicates otherwise. USP's previous requirement was six months or 25% of the remaining time provided by the manufacturer's label, whichever was less. USP changed its recommendation to be more consistent with multi-unit containers. This change is reflected in the first supplement of the USP-NF.

Meeting Dates—Remainder of 2000

- November 28 - 29, 2000 Administrative Hearings
- December 27, 2000 Business Meeting

2001 Renewals

Renewal applications have been mailed to all current licensees of the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy for the year 2001. All certificates of licensure shall expire on December 31 following the date of issue. Every licensee, in order to continue to be licensed, shall pay an annual renewal fee. Such fee is due on January 1 each year and delinquent after the last day of February of each year. If any licensee shall fail to pay a renewal fee on or before the last day of February of any year, such certificate shall become null and void, and the holder of such certificate may be reinstated only upon payment of a penalty for each lapsed year.

Board Members/Board Inspectors

- George Bolling**, Fayette President
- Tom Alford**, Birmingham Vice President
- Sam Costello**, Decatur Treasurer
- Jim Justice**, Atmore Member
- Jerry Moore**, Birmingham Member
- Clay Wilson**, Birmingham Member
- Henry Burks**, Birmingham Inspector
- George Grubbs**, Birmingham Inspector
- Drue Lackey**, Montgomery Inspector
- Richard Lambruschi**, Chelsea Inspector
- A.C. McDonald**, Bay Minette Inspector

Alabama State Board Of Pharmacy's Web Site

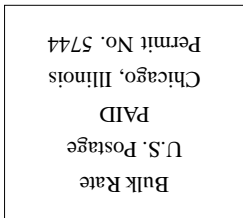
The Alabama State Board of Pharmacy's Web site contains all the pharmacy laws, forms for registration, and other pertinent information, which we hope will be useful to pharmacists. Our Web site address is www.albop.com.

Do You Know a Pharmacist Who Needs Help?

Call the Committee on Rehabilitating Impaired Pharmacists (CORIP) help line at the voice mail of Jay Lloyd at 205/975-8548. All calls are confidential.

The *Alabama State Board of Pharmacy News* is published by the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc, to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law. The opinions and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or policies of the Foundation or the Board unless expressly so stated.

Jerry Moore, RPh - State News Editor
 Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh - National News Editor
 & Executive Editor
 Courtney M. Karzen - Editorial Manager



ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
 National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc.
 700 Busse Highway
 Park Ridge, Illinois 60068