



# SC Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation – Board of Pharmacy

Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

Synergy Business Park, 110 Centerview Drive  
PO Box 11927, Columbia, SC 29211

### Chairman's Corner

*Comments from Ronnie W. Cromer, RPh,  
Chairman, South Carolina Board of Pharmacy*

The South Carolina Board of Pharmacy approved the new organizational changes regarding office staff and corresponding responsibilities. The office staff is primarily divided into three divisions: compliance, licensing of individuals, and permitting of facilities. The compliance division will be responsible for conducting routine and follow-up inspections. Also, the inspectors will conduct investigations into alleged violations of the South Carolina Pharmacy Practice Act. The licensure department will be responsible for the licensing of pharmacists, reciprocity, registering of pharmacy technicians, employment changes for pharmacy technicians, and interns/externs. The permitting department will be responsible for the permitting of facilities according to the permit classifications and will include pharmacy permits, non-dispensing drug outlet permits, medical gases/legend devices permits, non-resident pharmacy permits, and non-resident wholesaler/distributor permits. Other duties of the permit department include the change of ownership and/or relocation of existing permits, tracking inspection violations, pharmacist employment and pharmacist-in-charge changes, and permit holder and consultant pharmacist change forms. The receptionist for the Board of Pharmacy also handles licensure verification and Freedom of Information Act requests.

The Board office staff has had many changes in staff positions and duties. I would like to introduce you to the appropriate staff member to assist with your needs:

◆ Compliance Division

- Lee Ann Bundrick, RPh ..... 803/896-4711  
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### Permit Renewals

If you are a permit holder and have not received your permit renewal application, contact the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy office immediately. Applications for renewal must be filed on or before June 1 as required by §40-43-83(A) of the Pharmacy Practice Act; otherwise, your existing permit will lapse on June 30, 2001. Section 40-43-110 (A) of the Pharmacy Practice Act states: "For permits not renewed by the expiration date specified on the permit, the Board may charge late penalties as follows: (1) ten dollars a day if renewed during the first thirty days following expiration; (2) failure to renew by the end of thirty days following expiration shall result in automatic cancellation of the permit and application for a new permit is required."

Correctly completed applications, along with the renewal fee, must be postmarked on or before June 1. Postage meter imprints are not acceptable as proof of mailing. It is recommended that you send the applications via certified mail with return receipt requested, so that you will have proof of mailing by the deadline.

If the Board staff documents operation under an expired permit, civil penalties will be assessed.

### It's Renewal Time for Technicians

Pharmacy technician renewal applications were mailed to all registered technicians at their designated mailing addresses before May 1, 2001. The completed renewal application and fee must be received at the Board office no later than June 1, 2001. If you supervise an employee who functions as a pharmacy

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technician who is currently not registered, the Board strongly urges you to remind the technician to register immediately.

As a reminder, it is the responsibility of the pharmacist-in-charge to ensure that all technicians employed hold a current registration. Because technicians do not receive the *South Carolina Board of Pharmacy News*, the Board asks that you share information with the technicians with whom you work.

### Tips from the Compliance Department

The Board of Pharmacy's inspectors would like to make the following recommendations to ensure that inspections are conducted with minimal interruption of pharmacy services.

- ◆ A pharmacy is required to have current copies of the South Carolina Pharmacy Practice Act, the South Carolina Controlled Substance Act and Regulations, the South Carolina Drug Act, and the past four issues of the *South Carolina Board of Pharmacy News*. The inspectors suggest that pharmacies create a notebook containing the above-referenced items along with past Board of Pharmacy and Department of Health and Environmental Control Bureau of Drug Control inspections.
- ◆ Since an updated *Facts and Comparisons* is required for all pharmacies, please utilize the "Update Page" on page (ii) in the front of the reference book. This will provide a quick visual check for the pharmacist and inspector that the reference is current.
- ◆ Original certificates issued by the Board of Pharmacy, such as permits, licenses, certificates, and registrations, must be displayed for public view in a conspicuous place in the permitted facility. Copies of these certificates are not acceptable for display.
- ◆ All pharmacists who dispense compounded prescriptions must comply with state and federal recordkeeping standards and requirements. If the pharmacist compounds a preparation according to the manufacturer's labeling instructions, then no further documentation is required; however, all other compounded preparations require further documentation. Such compounding documents and records should list the ingredients and the quantity of each in the order of the compounding process. Current good compounding practices and

requirements are outlined in the Pharmacy Practice Act and the US Pharmacopeia & National Formulary (USP/NF).

The objective of the documentation is to allow another pharmacist to reproduce the identical preparation at a future date. Each prescription may be used to satisfy the formula and log requirements if the required information is recorded for each refill. However, a compounding logbook or file is recommended by the USP/NF.

The Board of Pharmacy staff would like to thank you for your courtesy and cooperation during and after inspections.

### Typical Violations Found During Inspections

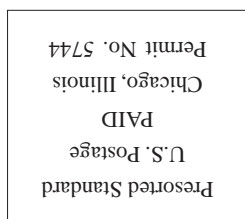
The following is statistical information regarding typical violations found during inspections of permitted sites in 2001 by the Board of Pharmacy inspectors: 19 inspections revealed the South Carolina Controlled Substance Act was missing; 17 inspections revealed current drug reference material was outdated or missing; 13 inspections revealed the *South Carolina Board of Pharmacy News* was missing; 13 inspections revealed there were labeling and/or repackaging of legend medications violations; 11 inspections revealed compounding logs or formulas were missing or incomplete; eight inspections revealed violations regarding refrigerator checks; six inspections revealed violations regarding pharmacy technician registrations; five inspections revealed a copy of *Equivalent Drug Product Evaluations* (Orange Book) or acceptable bioequivalency reference was missing; four inspections revealed no hot water in the pharmacy; and two inspections revealed violations regarding written policies and procedures.

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The *South Carolina Board of Pharmacy News* is published by the South Carolina 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.

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