



The Credential

Second Quarter 2010

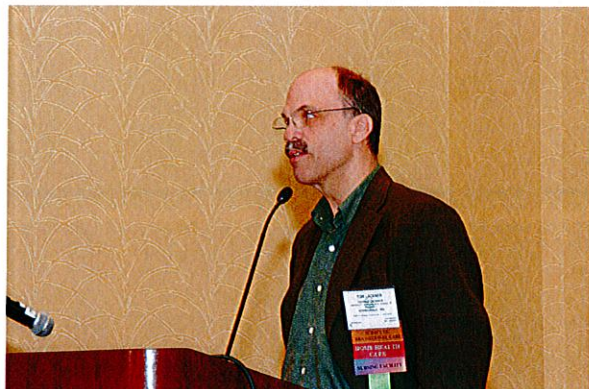
The Mark of Excellence in Geriatric Care

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Reminder: Please notify CCGP of any change in address or name to info@ccgp.org

Report from the CCGP Breakfast at the ASCP Midyear Meeting



Call for Nominations for CCGP Board of Commissioners – Due September 10, 2010

The Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy (CCGP) is seeking nominations of board-certified geriatric pharmacists for election to a position on the CCGP Board of Commissioners. The newly elected Commissioners will serve a three-year term that commences December 1, 2010.

Eligibility criteria of nominees include:

- Must be a board-certified geriatric pharmacist (CGP) with a minimum of 5 years experience in the practice of geriatric pharmacy
- Leadership interest and success as demonstrated by elected geriatric position, committee membership, or chair within a geriatric pharmacy organization; or current or previous pharmacy-related management position
- Ability to educate other practitioners and champion advantages of board certification in geriatric pharmacy
- Willing to provide necessary time and energy to the Commission
- Willing to consider leadership path to Board Chair
- Willing to participate in internal mentoring process
- Have a basic understanding of financial reports and budgeting process or willingness to acquire this basic understanding
- Willing to promote the value of board certification within own organization and regionally within other professional pharmacy organizations
- Willing to provide the Nominating Committee with the required documentation to support qualifications.

For information about the nominating process, [click here](#).

Call for Nominations for Exam Development Committee Members – Due September 10, 2010

CCGP seeks volunteers for appointment to the Examination Development Committee (EDC). Self-nominations are encouraged. Newly elected EDC members will serve a three-year term that commences on January 1, 2011.

Tom Lackner, Chair of the CCGP Board of Commissioners, addresses the group at the CCGP Breakfast

CCGP sponsored a breakfast during the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists Midyear Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. The breakfast was held on Wednesday, May 26, 2010, and was open to both CGPs and pharmacists interested in becoming a CGP. Approximately 75 people attended.

Tom Lackner, chairman of the CCGP Board of Commissioners, welcomed the attendees and introduced the CCGP Board members present at the breakfast. ASCP Director of Policy and Advocacy, Claudia Schlosberg, made some brief comments about health reform and potential opportunities in the future for certified geriatric pharmacists. Attendees were also given an update about current CCGP activities and plans for the future.

New CCGP International Task Force Holds First Meeting

With CGPs now present in eight countries, the CCGP Board of Commissioners appointed an International Task Force (ITF) to review how the CGP credential might be more effectively promoted and recognized in other countries. The ITF met in May 2010 for the first time. Chris Alderman, a CGP from Australia, is the chairman of the ITF. He is also a member of the CCGP Board of Commissioners. Other members of the ITF are Eldon Armstrong, William Simonson, Annie Lam, Sally Ebsary, and Tom Lackner.

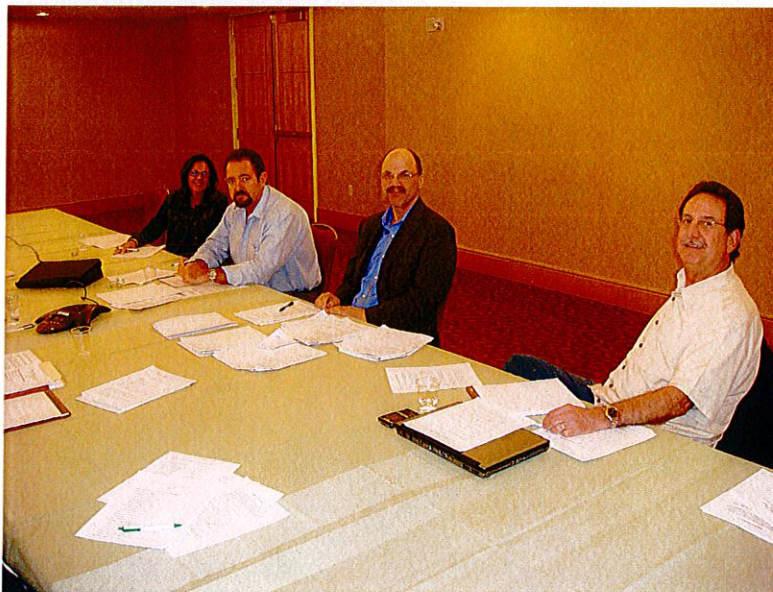
The ITF suggested that priority should be given to expanding visibility and uptake of the CGP credential in Canada and Australia, where a presence is already established. Chris Alderman believes that some inexpensive strategies could be very useful in generating visibility and interest in Australia. Several other countries were identified as good prospects for future expansion of the program.

CGPs Testify at U.S. Senate Hearing

On March 24, 2010, two ASCP leaders, Ross Brickley and Robert Warnock, both certified geriatric pharmacists, testified before a Senate Special Committee on Aging "listening session" entitled, "The War on Drugs Meets the War on Pain: Nursing Home Patients Caught in the Crossfire." Senator Herb Kohl (D-WI), chairman of the Senate Special Committee on

EDC members participate in item writing for the certification exam, evaluate the exam administration results, and serve as advisors concerning the examination and administration of the certification process. Volunteers must be Certified Geriatric Pharmacists. To obtain more information, [go to this link](#).

Update from the CCGP Board of Commissioners



From left to right: CCGP Commissioners Martha Little, Chris Alderman, Tom Lackner (Chair), and Ken Tuell, during the May meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

The CCGP Board of Commissioners met in May 2010, just prior to the ASCP Midyear Meeting. One key result from the meeting was a decision to develop a comprehensive marketing plan for CCGP, with the goals of increasing the visibility of the credential with key stakeholders and attracting more pharmacists to take the examination. This should strengthen the program and hopefully open more doors of opportunity for board Certified Geriatric Pharmacists.

A pilot "CGP In-Training" program with the University of Maryland will begin this fall. With a mentor, pharmacy students can take designated course work and engage in other geriatric experiences. Students completing the program will receive a "CGP In-Training" Certificate. In addition, these students become eligible to take the CGP examination one year following their licensure instead of the usual two-year waiting period.

CCGP is doing well overall, with revenue and number of applicants for the CGP credential both above budget for the year so far. The renewal rate has also improved.

Aging, presided. The purpose of the session was to examine the challenges associated with dispensing of pain medication in nursing homes across our country, an issue Senator Kohl termed "very serious — one that impacts the daily well-being and comfort of millions of elderly Americans."

CGPs Now in Eight Countries, 49 States

Certified Geriatric Pharmacists are now located in eight countries, with Canada having the most (about 200) and Australia having the second largest tally (about 50). Other countries with CGPs include Singapore, Sweden, Japan, France, and the United Arab Emirates. Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and 49 states also have Certified Geriatric Pharmacists. The one state without a CGP is North Dakota. If you know a North Dakota pharmacist, encourage him or her to become a CGP!

CCGP Compiling Information about Benefits of the CGP Credential

Most CGPs appreciate the intangible benefits of earning the CGP credential, such as professional satisfaction and greater prestige and recognition with patients and health professional colleagues. Some pharmacists, however, find that the CGP credential also provides more tangible benefits, such as an increase in salary or a financial bonus. CCGP is in the process of compiling information about these tangible benefits, so that the value of the CGP credential can be more effectively promoted to pharmacists. As more pharmacists become certified, the visibility and value of the credential increases, which benefits all CGPs.

If your employer recognizes the CGP credential in some way, or if you have personally benefited in a financial way from having the CGP credential, please send us an email at info@ccgp.org to let us know. We plan to compile this information and post it on the CCGP Web site. Thanks for your assistance.

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