

Online Pharmacist Refresher Course



Degrees Without Boundaries

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*By Pharmacists,
With Pharmacists,
For Pharmacists*



The Connecticut Pharmacists Association
Dedicated To the Profession of Pharmacy

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The Pharmacist Refresher course is designed for pharmacists who wish to return to community pharmacy practice after an absence from practice for three or more years. The course consists of three modules, all of which have been approved for American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) continuing education credits. The first two modules are completely online and composed of weekly study segments that allow course participants to work at their own pace, on their own time. The third module consists of a three-week, 90-hour 'live' experience in a community pharmacy. The Connecticut Pharmacy Association (CPA) will assist in sourcing pharmacies at which participants can complete the module. Only those who participate in all three modules will earn a Pharmacist Refresher Course Certificate from Charter Oak State College. Those taking modules One and/or Two for personal enrichment will earn ACPE credits through CPA.

Module One: \$500

This web-based module addresses the most commonly prescribed drugs, the most commonly used over-the-counter (OTC) medications, nutritional supplements, and herbal products. Focus is on the "Top 200" drugs and the disease states for which they are used. This module is accessible for eight weeks and should take approximately 50 hours to complete. Upon completion of the module the participant will be able to:

- Identify the most commonly dispensed brand and generic drugs (often referred to as the "Top 200").
- State for each drug, their indications for use, contraindications, and common and significant drug-drug interactions (including OTC's and nutritional supplements).
- List for each drug, their usual dose, dosage forms and propensity for causing allergic reactions and side effects.
- Explain to patients the proper use of each of the Top 200 Drugs.
- Explain and compare the cost of therapy for the various drugs in each therapeutic category.
- List and discuss the traditional therapeutic categories of OTCs.
- List and discuss the common ailments amenable to treatment with OTCs.
- Identify the limitations of self care/medication.
- Identify and be able to recommend products within each category given patient specific information.
- Identify potential drug-drug interactions between OTCs and Rx medications.
- Identify and be able to assess the various types of alternative therapies/treatments.
- Compare appropriate use of vitamins, minerals, and nutritional products.
- Explain the Rx to OTC Switch process including future candidates for "switch."
- Explain brand/line extensions and impact on consumers and pharmacies.
- Explain the concept of a third class of drug.

ACPE#: 106-000-03-015-H01 (50 contact hours*)

*These contact hours are considered home study, not live.

Module Two: \$500

Also web-based, this module addresses pharmacy law, third party issues, and prescription processing with a focus on safe prescription practices. Module Two is accessible for a six-week period and should take approximately 45 hours to complete. Upon completion of the module the participant will be able to:

- Explain all laws pertaining to prescription processing of non-controlled and controlled substances and the record-keeping for those substances.
- Compare laws pertaining to pharmacists' supervision of interns, technicians and temporary pharmacists. Identify the duties and limitations of the technicians.
- Discuss the ethics of filling prescriptions and confidentiality.
- Explain Medicare, Medicaid, Pharmacy Benefit Managers and cash discount programs.
- Explain deductibles, co-payments, maximum benefits, tiered benefits, and formulary lists.
- Identify documentation, counseling and record keeping requirements.
- Identify Product Selection Codes (aka Dispense As Written codes) and NCPDP formats.
- Explain prior authorizations, step therapies and other reject messages.
- Compare audit types and payment adjustments.
- Compare new and refill prescription requirements.
- Identify the various transmission methods of a prescription to a pharmacy and the regulations concerning those methods.
- Explain ways to perform prospective, concurrent, and retrospective drug utilization reviews.
- Explain the OBRA counseling requirements.
- Identify ways to maintain the prescription in a manner that satisfies legal and third party requirements.
- Identify a quality assurance program for error prevention and reporting.

ACPE#: 106-000-03-016—H03 (15 contact hours Law*)

ACPE#: 106-000-03-017-H04 (30 contact hours*)

Module Three: \$500

This module is a supervised, three-week, ninety contact hour, hands-on practicum in a community pharmacy. The participant will incorporate knowledge acquired from Modules One and Two with experience gained from Module Three to provide effective counseling and safe dispensing practices. A current pharmacist license, professional liability insurance and health and disability insurance are required to participate in Module Three. (90 contact hours) Upon completion of this module the participant will be able to:

- Design a personal quality assurance plan that will ensure safe prescription practices.
- Explain to a patient the proper use of their prescription at the time of dispensing.
- Select the appropriate OTC product for a patient and counsel them on its use.
- Identify methods to incorporate proper legal documentation in the filling and record keeping of prescription drug processing.
- Demonstrate competence in third party issues with regard to billing, record keeping and prescription processing.
- Demonstrate proficiency in defined competencies of the various aspects of pharmacy practice.

ACPE#: 106-000-03-018-L04 (15 live contact hours)

Payment by cash, check, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover). A payment plan is also available.



The Connecticut Pharmacists Association is accredited by The American Council on Pharmaceutical Education as a provider of continuing education



The North Carolina Association of Pharmacists has partnered with the CT Pharmacists Association to offer you this online refresher course.

To find out when the next Pharmacist Refresher course begins, or to register, call Charter Oak's Distance Learning Office at (860) 832-3837 or (860) 832-3812 or visit <http://www.cosc.edu/distancelearning/noncredit.cfm>. For additional information about course content, contact the Connecticut Pharmacists Association at (860) 563-4619.