

**Pharmacists Society
of the State of New York
(PSSNY)
Policy Book**



**Adopted Resolutions
through June 2008**

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PSSNY Mission

The aim of this Society shall be to unite the pharmacists of the State for mutual assistance, encouragement, and improvement in order to maintain the standard of pharmacy practice at a high professional and ethical level.

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KEY AND ACRONYMS

KEY

- Active:** Current resolutions that still require action
- Archived:** Current resolutions that no longer require action but are still reflective of the mission of PSSNY (duplicative statements may be here as well)
- Rescinded:** Outdated resolutions that no longer require action and are not reflective of the mission of PSSNY (duplicative statements may be here as well)

ACRONYMS

- ADA:** Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- AMA:** American Medical Association
- CE:** Continuing Education
- FDA:** Food and Drug Administration
- DEA:** Drug Enforcement Administration
- DOH:** Department of Health
- DUR:** Drug Utilization Review
- NABP:** National Association of Boards of Pharmacy
- NY:** New York
- NYS:** New York State
- PSSNY:** Pharmacists Society of the State of New York
- RFP:** Request for Proposals

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PSSNY Active Resolutions

Current resolutions that still require action

PSSNY Archived Resolutions

**Current resolutions that no longer require action
but are still reflective of the mission of PSSNY**

I. ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY supports the configuration of electronic DUR systems to capture all data and development of a methodology to compensate pharmacists for cognitive services interventions leading to reduced costs. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY supports the use of sealed electronic transmissions of prescriptions from a prescriber to a pharmacy of the patient's choice. (1997)

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY supports the ability of pharmacists to receive transmitted prescriptions electronically from prescribers. (January 2001)

II. IMPORTATION OF PHARMACEUTICALS

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should actively lobby at the state and federal levels of government for the legal re-importation of FDA-approved drugs to be sold and dispensed by pharmacies in NYS. (Pre-1997)

III. MAIL ORDER PHARMACY

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should inform all third party plans of our objection to mail order prescriptions. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY should seek passage of legislation that would require a common pharmacy to ship prescription medications to NY residents via mail with a return receipt, thereby preventing drugs from being left unattended. (1997)
3. PSSNY should institute a concerted effort directed toward public education about those factors that either prevent or reduce direct contact with a pharmacist, such as directing patients to mail order pharmacies, and that those factors are a reduction in healthcare and put patients at risk. (June 2003)
4. PSSNY should ask the NYS Board of Pharmacy to require any mail order or pharmacy entity doing business in NYS to mandate that they too must have pharmacists or pharmacy interns counsel, by phone or other verbal or face-to-face means, all patients receiving any new medication or therapy (change). (January 2004)
5. PSSNY supports legislation in NYS that requires all prescription plans administered on behalf of all sponsoring plans located within NYS, including government sponsored and private, or employer or union sponsored plans to give the patient the option to choose any pharmacy of their choice for the prescription drugs that are ordered by their prescriber without any requirement to obtain their drugs from a mail order pharmacy, and additionally be required to charge the same co-pay for medications from patient's chosen pharmacy at the same rate as the mail order pharmacy (if the plan has one), and allow the patient to obtain up to a 100 days supply of medications (within the limits of any law from NYS) from a pharmacy of their choice without any financial penalty over the rates charged by a mail order pharmacy (if the plan has one) enrolled in their prescription plan. (January 2005)

III. MAIL ORDER PHARMACY

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY supports the proposed change in the NYS Pharmacy Practice Act that states, "No prescription shall be dispensed unless there is a direct interaction between the pharmacist and the patient or the patient's care giver." (June 1998)
2. PSSNY should seek uniform enforcement of all laws, rules and regulations that impact the practice of pharmacy; and petition the Attorney General of NYS to prosecute all entities practicing pharmacy in our state without being duly licensed by our state. (June 2003)

IV. MEDICAID AND MEDICARE

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should seek administrative action, regulation or legislation that would require any RFP for prescription drug benefits and medical supplies covering government employees and Medicaid or social program recipients as well as other recipients of government social programs contain provisions allowing the option of electronic fund transfers on all cycle payments for all providers. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY supports legislation in NYS to mandate the return of branded and generic pharmaceuticals for credit in both partial and full containers, with pro rating to the nearest 10%, by their manufacturer upon their expiration. (January 2005)
3. PSSNY hereby petitions the DOH Medicaid authorities to eliminate the swiping requirement for any and all pharmacies located within NYS. (June 2006)

IV. MEDICAID AND MEDICARE

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY supports manufacturer rebates in Medicaid program. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY supports coverage for an outpatient Medicare prescription drug benefit inclusive of incentives for pharmacist care initiatives and that PSSNY formulate a proactive strategy which includes input from Capital Public Affairs, planned meetings with federal legislators, eliciting support from state officials and public relations campaign to assure open access by patients and pharmacists and inclusion of comprehensive pharmacist care benefits. (June 1999)

V. PHARMACIST LICENSURE

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY opposes NABP's plans to provide the Pharmacist Continued Competency Assessment Mechanism by national and state associations alike. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY should petition the Office of the Professions and the NYS Board of Pharmacy to include an optional question on pharmacists' registration renewals to indicate their interest in serving in emergency preparedness planning and response activities. (January 2006)

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY supports mandatory CE as a condition of re-licensure. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY seek introduction of legislation to amend NYS Education Law S.6827 1(b) that exempts those pharmacists from the mandatory CE requirement for the triennial registration period during which they are first licensed and delete the exemption. (June 2003)

VI. PRACTICE ISSUES

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should continue its efforts to get a Freedom of Access bill through the legislature as soon as possible. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY supports the establishment of a task force or committee to study pharmacy work environments and work loads. It was recommended that PSSNY look into what the NABP is doing first. (Pre-1997)
3. PSSNY recognizes that dispensing of medication best serves the public health when these functions are performed by a pharmacist. (Pre-1997)
4. PSSNY supports creation of a third class of drugs to be sold by pharmacists only. Drugs switching from prescription to over-the-counter should be placed into this category for an initial period. (Pre-1997)
5. PSSNY encourages expiration dates of all manufacturers' packaging to be conspicuously printed (following ADA print set guides). All expiration dates should be the end of the months of April or October. (Pre-1997)
6. PSSNY supports the ability of pharmacists to provide emergency contraception through written protocol with a prescriber. (NOTE: This was opposed by representatives from St. John's University, College of Pharmacy. This resolution received numerous negative votes but was passed by the majority present and voting.) (Pre-1997)
7. PSSNY should pursue legislation to restrict and/or abolish the use of drug samples in favor of coupon vouchers redeemable at registered pharmacies. (January 1998)
8. PSSNY supports the position that the pharmacist should take an active role as a primary advocate of immunization practices to promote health and to prevent diseases. (January 1998)
9. PSSNY recognizes that a pharmacist acting on moral, ethical or religious beliefs is acting professionally and that PSSNY express these views to the NYS Board of Pharmacy for consideration as an addendum to the NYS Pharmacy Practice Act. (January 1998)
10. PSSNY encourages all health care providers to use specific directions and avoid using unsafe abbreviations as defined by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices when writing prescription orders. (June 2004)

VI. PRACTICE ISSUES

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

11. PSSNY should seek introduction and support of legislation that would prevent predatory below cost products and / or contracts. (January 2007)
12. PSSNY supports that all insured individuals should be provided by the new insurance carrier a transition period of at least one 30-day fill for their existing medications when the patient's insurance coverage changes. Furthermore, PSSNY should seek legislation to amend the Insurance Law to mandate this change. (January 2007)
13. PSSNY staff should share any information learned from its members or other individuals about their experiences with audits from any public or private payer. This information should include what the payer is looking for in the audit and what issues are being cited. Any information received should be compiled into one written list, updated as new information is received, sent to members immediately, and also placed in a secure, members-only section of the website. (January 2008)

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY supports regulations that continue to make the pharmacist responsible for prescription data entered into the computerized system. (1997)
2. PSSNY should petition NY DOH Bureau of Controlled Substances and / or NYS Legislature to amend the regulations/statutes to allow an emergency supply of controlled substances to be stocked in NYS skilled nursing facilities and furthermore, that this supply be provided by vendor pharmacies so that in the event of an emergency, caregivers can provide immediate relief, per physicians order. (January 2003)
3. PSSNY supports legislation removing the requirement that the dispensing pharmacy DEA number be entered on the back of all Official NYS Prescription Forms. (January 2004)
4. PSSNY will actively engage the DOH, Bureaus of Narcotic Enforcement and the state legislature if necessary in amending the regulations to modify the requirements of prescribing syringes to be modified so the ordering of such syringes would be changed to match the requirements for

the ordering of non-controlled drugs (which can be ordered on a written or verbal prescription). (January 2006)

VII. PSSNY BUSINESS

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. The use of the PSSNY name or representation of the policies of PSSNY should be done only by the current officers and staff, unless express consent of PSSNY is given. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY should indemnify authorized representatives. (Pre-1997)
3. PSSNY Affiliates should seek support of regional medical societies on the physician dispensing issue consistent with AMA. (Pre-1997)
4. PSSNY should plan Pharmacy Day at NYS Legislature as an annual event scheduled early enough in the year so as to encourage students and faculty to participate. (Pre-1997)
5. PSSNY officers or board members should not profit personally, directly or indirectly, from a position on the PSSNY Board. (Pre-1997)
6. PSSNY will whenever possible submit obituaries of past PSSNY presidents to the *New York Times* and local newspaper of the deceased. (Pre-1997)
7. PSSNY amends the By-Laws to allow the PSSNY Board to offer pharmacists who have never been a member of PSSNY, are not on a pledge program, or have not been affiliated with PSSNY over the past five years, a special introductory rate for dues, for one year, to be divided 2/3's PSSNY, 1/3 to the affiliate, and that this rate be determined annually. (Pre-1997)
8. PSSNY supports the Medical Society of the State of New York's malpractice tort reform and encourages legislators to act to resolve the crisis. (1986)
9. The use of the terms drug store and retail druggist or druggist should be replaced with the terms community pharmacy and community pharmacist in all future PSSNY and PSSNY Affiliate literature. (1997)
10. PSSNY should caucus at each national convention. (January 2002)
11. PSSNY-sponsored CE@Sea Cruises should be scheduled so that there is no conflict with meetings NYS Pharmacists should attend. (June 2002)

VII. PSSNY BUSINESS

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

12. When a Past President dies PSSNY should contribute monies to a charity, organization or college of the choice of the family—providing the organization reflects favorably on the profession of pharmacy. (June 2003)
13. PSSNY should have a committee comprised of the program chairpersons from among affiliates with the purpose of planning CE. This committee will report to the PSSNY staff member in charge of CE in order to ensure quality programming with accreditation for all affiliates and society at large. (January 2006)
14. PSSNY, in conjunction with its regional affiliates, should charge a committee to investigate a dues program to include a life-time membership in the state society and its individual affiliates. (June 2007)

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY endorses the Patients Bill of Rights. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY should create a standing committee for the purpose of categorizing passed resolutions to ensure that all necessary actions regarding the intent of the resolutions are carried out in full by the association. The Standing Committee will be called the Sundowning Committee, comprised of no more than 5 appointed members and a Board of Directors Liaison, and it will meet each year to review the resolutions and provide a report in the form of a resolution to the House of Delegates regarding their recommendation for re-classifying resolutions. (January 2005)
3. The PSSNY Board should make the New Practitioner Committee a standing committee to assist in planning New Practitioner Network events, recruiting new practitioners to become members, and encourage new practitioners to become involved in PSSNY committees and affiliates. (January 2005)

VII. PSSNY BUSINESS

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

4. The PSSNY Board should change the rate of dues escalation from the current 5-year period to a 4-year schedule of no charge from graduation to January 1, then 25% of full membership dues for the first year, 50% for the second year, 75% for the third year and 100% for the fourth year and beyond. (January 2005)
5. The PSSNY Board should change the name of the Pledge Program to the New Practitioner Program in describing the discounted dues paid by recent graduates to promote the benefits of membership to new practitioners. (January 2005)
6. PSSNY supports the categorization of all resolutions passed at the House of Delegates as presented by the Sundowning Committee. (January 2005)
7. The PSSNY Executive Director should contact each of the Non-Regional Affiliates within the next 60 days and request a comprehensive (include the names and addresses) membership list which shall include all pharmacists that live or work in NY, in order to allow PSSNY to reach out and encourage any Non-Regional Affiliate pharmacists to join PSSNY, our professional pharmacy organization in order to fully represent their voices in our efforts. Furthermore, if any Non-Regional Affiliate organization fails to cooperate with such request, they shall be informed that their Non-Regional Affiliate Organization is violating a PSSNY resolution and is jeopardizing their continued affiliation with PSSNY by failing to cooperate with this important request. (June 2005)
8. The PSSNY Constitution and Bylaws will henceforth reflect gender-neutral language. (June 2006)
9. PSSNY accepts the recommendations of the Sundowning Committee for categorizing passed resolutions. (January 2007)
10. A Standing Academy entitled the Academy of New Practitioners (ANP) will be created. This Academy shall consist of all PSSNY members who have graduated within the past 5 years. The ANP will assist in the transition from student member to full member and strive to increase membership and involvement of new practitioners within the Society through networking and educational opportunities. All PSSNY members eligible for the ANP will be automatically enrolled at no charge to the member, in addition to the membership benefit of one (1) complimentary Academy membership. (June 2007)

VIII. STUDENTS

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should work with all pharmacy colleges within the state to improve student understanding of the political process and encourage political action. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY encourages students to participate in local organizations (affiliates). (Pre-1997)
3. PSSNY should develop a program to approach high school guidance counselors at our Affiliate levels and by Affiliate members promote the profession of pharmacy to prospective student pharmacists in a positive manner. (June 1999)
4. PSSNY should host a formal orientation for students at every convention that PSSNY holds. (June 1999)

ARCHIVED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should offer free membership to all graduates until January of the year following graduation. (Pre-1997)

IX. THIRD PARTY

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should seek legislation allowing patients' freedom of choice. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY supports an anti-trust exemption for pharmacists so that chartered or statewide pharmacy organizations are allowed to negotiate with third party administrators. (Pre-1997)
3. PSSNY should pursue, with legal action or through the NY Insurance Department, requirements that insurance providers pay the line charge when a pharmacy transmits a claim. (1997)
4. PSSNY supports the concept and should seek legislation requiring health plans and insurance companies to maintain "continuity of care" in prescription drug therapy and not force patients to change from drugs that are achieving desirable outcomes. (1997)

X. UNLICENSED PERSONNEL

ACTIVE RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY supports site-specific training of unlicensed persons assisting pharmacists and opposes costly certification. (Pre-1997)

PSSNY Rescinded Resolutions

**Outdated resolutions that no longer require action and
are not reflective of the mission of PSSNY**

I.

MAIL ORDER PHARMACY

RESCINDED RESOLUTIONS

1. Counseling regulations shall apply to all pharmacies equally regarding the offer to counsel. There shall be no exception for mail service pharmacy. (Pre-1997)
2. PSSNY insists that the State Board of Pharmacy, the agency that requires regulations and protects the public health in pharmacy matters, reevaluate mail order pharmacy exemption and enforce counseling regulations in the same manner for all pharmacists regardless of practice setting. (Pre-1997)

II. **MEDICAID AND MEDICARE**

RESCINDED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should petition the NYS Medicaid to discontinue the “swiping” requirement of pharmacists providing service to NYS Medicaid recipients. (Pre-1997)

III. **PSSNY BUSINESS**

RESCINDED RESOLUTIONS

1. PSSNY should establish a date for Pharmacy Day in advance and that it be the same each year if possible. (Pre-1997)