



COMMUNITY PHARMACY FOR
THE FUTURE

Featured Article

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Featured Article</i>	1
<i>President's Message</i>	2
<i>Executive Director</i>	2
<i>RxPlus Political Issues</i>	3

RxPlus Mission

RxPlus Pharmacies, Inc. is an organization of health care providers which creates value by promoting the economic, professional, educational, and political advancement of community pharmacy. We do this for the health and well being of our communities.

If you find any errors or omissions, or if you have any comments regarding the Website, you can fill out the email form following the "Contact Us" button of the homepage!



A Great Way to Oral Health is... To Brush!

And to Brush, Colorado it was . . . for RxPlus Pharmacies and the fifth annual Colorado Mission of Mercy (COMOM).

COMOM is a large scale dental clinic that is held annually in a Colorado community. On October 21 and 22, 2011, the Brush High School was transformed into a large-scale dental clinic in which 1,375 patients were served. Patient registration, and health and dental triage were in the school's central commons area. The main gym was set-up for restorative procedures, sterilization, imaging, and prosthodontics. The auxiliary gym became the place for pediatric dentistry, hygiene, and oral surgery; the wrestling room for anesthesia; and the weight room for oral health instruction!

After patients received their dental treatment, pharmacists were on hand to provide medications to be taken at home. RxPlus Pharmacies donated the medication for the 2011 dental clinic, just as they did for the 2010 clinic held in Colorado Springs.

Ben Brunner, PharmD, owner of Brush's B & B Pharmacy and an RxPlus member, oversaw COMOM's pharmacy department with Teresa Peters, RPh. Brunner commented, "Patients had smiles on their faces and so very grateful for the dental care received. Many of these patients waited overnight to be seen."

Brunner further explained that "COMOM brought the dental cavalry." Morgan County and other northeast counties hold the federal designation as dental health professional shortage areas. In 2011, Brush had two licensed dentists. For the COMOM clinic, 171 dentists from across the state converged on the rural town to provide assistance. In total, 924 volunteers participated and \$970,000 in donated oral healthcare services was provided to patients.

The patients, aged one through 88 years, underwent 5,832 dental procedures. They received cleanings, fillings, root canals, and extractions. Prefabricated crowns were placed, and whenever possible, interim



partial dentures were prepared to enable patients to have the appearance of full front teeth.

In order to promote ongoing oral health, patients were given one-on-one instruction on how to care for their teeth and the importance of preventive dental care. In addition, each patient received a list of low-cost dental care options for further treatment, and a toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss.

Patients were appreciative of the relief from pain and the gift of a smile, especially during these financial hard times. Patients also commented on the kindness of the volunteers, the explanations and information received, the professionalism, and for alleviating their fear of dentistry.

A patient explained, "I know angels walk amongst us and I experienced it first-hand at COMOM."

COMOM's next dental clinic will be held in Pueblo, Colorado on September 28 and 29, 2012, and RxPlus Pharmacies encourages its pharmacists to volunteer at the dental clinic and for this worthwhile initiative. For questions, contact Pam Dinkfelt, PhD, at 720.626.9778 or pamCOMOM@aol.com.

President's Message

Dear Members,

This will be my final letter to you as Co-President of RxPlus Pharmacies. I want to thank all of you for your support of RxPlus and ask that you continue to use the contracts that we have worked so hard to obtain. This is your company and it will only be as successful as you make it.

The RxPlus committees work very hard on vendor contracts, communication and technology for the stores, 340B, succession planning and of course, political issues.

The board of directors is always looking at new ways to bring bigger profits into your stores and need your support for the programs they offer.

I would also like to thank the RxPlus staff for all the work they do for both the board and the membership.

It has been a privilege serving on your board and although I am leaving as President, I will continue to serve you on the board until my term is over. Thanks for all your supporting efforts to the RxPlus Board of Directors and RxPlus staff.

Best regards,
K.C. Owen
Co-President
RxPlus Pharmacies

President's Message Cont. Page 4

Executive Director's Message

Happy Anniversary! RxPlus is celebrating our 30th Anniversary this year, and we have some very special events and announcements planned for our annual meeting that will be held August 17th-19th at the Westin Westminster, CO. This is your opportunity to get your CE for the year, learn the latest news on healthcare, network with your peers, and have a lot of fun. Please look over the annual meeting brochure you received last week and RSVP today. You can also go to our website (www.rxplus.com) and register online.

RxAlly is finalizing their first stage which is geo-mapping their network. Their first program, appropriately titled "Heart-To-Heart", will support the national Million Hearts™ initiative, which aims to prevent a million heart attacks and strokes over the next 5 years. If you have not yet enrolled in RxAlly we urge you to do so today. This is the only initiative in the US today that is actively promoting the pharmacy profession on a national level.

I hope you can join us at our annual meeting this year. Your board of directors has been working on a number of key issues to help enhance your bottom line and we will discuss these during our annual business meeting on Saturday afternoon. I look forward to seeing everyone in August.

Decision is the spark that ignites action. Until a decision is made nothing happens.

Wilfred A. Paterson

Grant Kinn
Executive Director

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT

Governmental Affairs Newsletter Update
By Brad Young

July 2012

Thank you to those who responded to our survey about the National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) survey.

Wyoming Pharmacy Association Annual Meeting:

Mike Mitchell and Brad Young attended the meeting to represent RxPlus Pharmacies as Brown and Gold Sponsors. Cori Cooper from Wyoming Medicaid explained the Cost Of Dispensing survey and plans by the Department to transition to a Cost Of Dispensing and Average Actual Acquisition Cost methodology for pharmacy payments. Wyoming plans to use the national acquisition cost data (NADAC) to determine drug pricing.

The Colorado Pharmacy Practice Act goes into effect on July 1. One of the amendments added to the bill by RxPlus lowers the fines for violations of the PDMP. *If you have been fined for a PDMP violation, you should consider appealing to the Board of Pharmacy to reduce the fine.*

Colorado Medicaid Below Cost Payments: If you receive a payment from Medicaid that was below your cost you can let Medicaid know about it. There is a link at the bottom of RxPlus.com (look for the Colorado Medicaid State MAC list link, it is just below it) that will take you to the Colorado Medicaid web site link for the 'Below Cost' form.

National Pharmacy Issues:

NCPA sent an appeal to pharmacies to write to their Congressional delegation and ask them to oppose the Drug User Fee Act (DPUFA) amendment that would have reclassified all hydrocodone-containing medications to Schedule II. We sent a joint letter with the chains and the Colorado Pharmacists Society to every member of the Colorado House and Senate expressing our concern. We heard back from staff members of most of the delegation, but their input was really not required. The message from NCPA, the APA, and NACDS convinced the conference members to eliminate that amendment.

Politics:

Candidates for Congress, the State House, and State Senate are busy campaigning! It may seem early, but they are (or should be if they aren't) out knocking on doors, stopping by businesses, having fundraisers, and attending public events in their districts. And they are calling on friends, relatives, political activists, and Political Committees for contributions to their campaigns.

RxPlus Pharmacies Independent Providers Political Committee depends on member contributions to help us fund candidates' races and influence policy after the elections. **Please take a few moments to fill out the political committee donation form and send it in with a check to help us in our political efforts.** Our success at the Legislature depends on your help!



Mark your Calendar

Cardinal Trade Show
Orlando, FL
July 11-14

RxPlus 30th Annual Meeting
Westminster, CO
Aug. 17-19

Kansas Pharmacy Association
Annual Conference and Trade
Show
Lawrence, KS
Sept. 28-30

NCPA 114th Annual Convention
and Trade Show
San Diego, CA
Oct. 13-17



President's Message Cont.

RxPlus Pharmacies, Inc.

**3660 Wadsworth Blvd.
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
Phone 303-463-4875
Fax 303-463-4880**

RxPlus Pharmacies, Inc. is an organization of health care providers which creates value by promoting the economic, professional, educational, and political advancement of community pharmacy. We do this for the health and well being of our communities.

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Executive Director

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Director of Operations

Leah Frank
Accounting Manager

Mike Mitchell
Director of Business
Development

Brad Young
Director of Government
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John Starker
IT / Social Media

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Greetings Fellow RxPlus Members,

The RxPlus Board and Staff participated in a strategic planning session last February in Blackhawk Colorado. The session was very productive as we modified our mission statement and developed guiding principles. Committees were assigned and our goals were prioritized. The board and staff have been working hard on their committee goals.

I serve on the 340B committee. We have worked to develop a favorable contract with CaptureRx for RxPlus members. This is a great example of how RxPlus works for you.

Serving on the board has heightened my appreciation for the work that present and past Board Members and Staff have done for independent pharmacy. Many times I call the office for help and support. For example, I was filling a prescription for Adderall for Medicaid and was reimbursed significantly below cost. I called Brad Young at the RxPlus Office for help and someone to vent my frustrations to. He directed me to the RxPlus website, then to the link for the form to report the underpayment to Medicaid.

I'm sure receiving reimbursements below cost has happened to all our members. Going to the RxPlus website and using the provided form for reporting Medicaid underpayments, will also assist Brad in advocating for us with Medicaid. Therefore; please do so, this will benefit us all.

Hope to see you all at the Annual Meeting in August!

Sincerely,
Joe Valdez
Co-President
RxPlus Pharmacies



Visit our new website to view or post **classified ads** at www.rxplus.com, call the office at 303-463-4875 for your member login id and password!

