

ICHP Position Statements 101

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Conflicts of Interest

We have no conflicts of interest with ineligible companies to disclose.

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Objectives (Pharmacists and Technicians)

- Describe the purpose and development process of ICHP position statements and their role in advancing pharmacy practice
- Explain how ICHP position statements can be used to support pharmacy practice, professional development, and advocacy
- Apply the principles of position statement development to evaluate and revise ICHP position statements
- Identify opportunities for pharmacy professionals to contribute to the ICHP position statement development process



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Why have a Position Statement?

- **ICHP's Mission Statement:** Advancing patient care by promoting excellence in pharmacy practice through education, collaboration, advocacy, and leadership.
- **ICHP's Vision Statement**
 - **Serve** as a premier source of education for pharmacy professionals.
 - **Embody** the diversity of pharmacy professionals.
 - **Inspire** collaborative and innovative pharmacy practice.
 - **Empower** pharmacy professionals to improve health equity and outcomes.
 - **Lead** pharmacy advocacy efforts and be recognized as a voice for the profession.
- But what do we stand for? What do we believe in? What do we endorse?



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What is a Position Statement?



The Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) develops position statements on pharmacy practice and health care policy.



Position statements are intended to guide the practice of pharmacy by its members and clearly express to patients and decision makers the viewpoint of ICHP on important issues affecting the health of patients and their families in Illinois.



ICHP frequently endorses ASHP Position Statements, but there are times when we may need to make a separate statement.

Local/State laws may differ
Practice types, patient access, etc. may make a distinct statement necessary



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The life cycle of a position statement in ICHP

Topics for position statements are identified and approved by the ICHP Executive Committee (based on current topics, member recommendation, other need). The topic is then assigned to the appropriate ICHP division(s).

The Position Statement is drafted utilizing appropriate references and sent to the Board for first approval and potential edits.

The Division of Professional Affairs reviews the Board edits and incorporates them into the Position Statement as appropriate. The Position Statement goes back to the Board.

The ICHP Board of Directors gives final approval before a Position Statement is posted on the ICHP website.

The Division of Professional Affairs is responsible for regular periodic review and updating of all Position Statements. Each update goes back through the above approval process.



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Website demo/screen shots

ICHP is a statewide professional organization whose members include pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, pharmacy students, and other pharmacy professionals who serve as members of healthcare teams in Illinois' hospitals and health systems. ICHP products and services help our members provide safe and effective care for their patients, as well as advance the profession of pharmacy. [Learn more about who we are.](#)

Mission & Governance

Mission & Vision | Policy & Procedure Manual | **Position Statements**

Overview

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List of Current Position Statements

- Each Position Statement is linked here.
- Use Ctrl+F to search for a specific statement

Position Statement Title	Review Date
Basic & Necessary Medication Dispensing Services for Home Use	11-2020
Basic and Necessary Medication Therapy Management Services for Patients Receiving Medications from a Remote Dispensing Pharmacy or Telepharmacy	1-2023
Chemical Dependencies	10-2022
Collaborative Drug Therapy Management Activities & Pharmacist Prescribing in Interprofessional Patient Care	1-2024
Connect State Pharmacist Licensure	2023
Continuing Assessment for the Pharmacy Professional	1-2025
Conscientious Objection to Dispensing Medications	1-2024
Continuing Professional Development	2-2024
Differentiated Nomenclature for Biologics	12-2022
Direct-To-Consumer Advertising of Prescription and Nonprescription Medications	8-2024
Disposal of Unused and Expired Patient Home Medications and Supplies	4-2021
Drug Samples	10-2023
Drug Testing in the Workplace	3-2023
Herbal and Dietary Substances	2023
Immunizations for the Pharmacy Workforce	1-2024
Intermediate and OTC Categories of Drug Products	2-2023
Laboratory and Injection	3-2025
Maintaining a Statewide Patient Information Center System	5-2022
Manufacture Drug Shortages	3-2023
Medical Cannabis Marijuana and non-FDA Approved Cannabinoids	2-2024
Medication Therapy Management Services	2-2026
Non-Pharmacist Prescriber Licensure	11-2024
Outside Medications Sourced By An Outside Pharmacy - White vs Brown Bagging	11-2024

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Considering how we may use positions statements ...

advancing pharmacy practice, supporting professional development,
promoting advocacy efforts



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From Two Positions to One Unified Vision

The Evolution of ICHP's Position on Professional Development



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THE STARTING POINT

Where We Started

1

POSITION STATEMENT #1 Continuing Professional Development

- Maintain professional competence
- Lifelong learning
- Continuing pharmacy education
- Develop skills for current and future roles

2

POSITION STATEMENT #2 Advanced Credentials

- Support specialty certification
- Encourage advanced credentials
- Health-system support
- Recognized credentialing organizations

Related but separate — one focused on the process of development, the other on credentials as one avenue for growth.

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ICHP Position - Support of Advanced Credentials for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians

- The Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) encourages health-systems to support pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in attaining specialty certifications or other advanced credentials from professionally-recognized organizations such as BPS, PTCB, ASCP, ADA, etc.

Reviewed 1/2022



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ICHP Position Statement - Continuing Professional Development

The Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) recognizes pharmacy as a healthcare profession. Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are obligated to maintain their professional competence by keeping their knowledge and skill set current. With the everchanging world of health care delivery and increasing demands of patients, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must commit to maintaining professional competence through lifelong learning or continuing professional development.

According to Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), Continuing Professional Development is a "self-directed, ongoing, systematic and outcomes-focused approach to lifelong learning that is applied into practice. It involves the process of active participation in formal and informal learning activities that assist in developing and maintaining competence, enhancing professional practice, and supporting achievement of career goals"¹.

ICHP recognizes that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians have an obligation to maintain and enhance their competence through continuing professional development and continuing pharmacy education which can be achieved through a myriad of means. ICHP encourages pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to develop and maintain skills necessary in their current roles as well as those that develop over time.

1. Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education Guidance on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for the Profession of Pharmacy. Continuing Professional Development – Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (acpe-accredit.org). Reviewed 2/24



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Why Bring Them Together?

Professional development is more than CE.



Not just CE. Not just certification. An ongoing, connected process — formal education, experiential learning, collaboration, and credentials.



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The New Unified Position

THE NEW STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

ICHP supports Pharmacy Professionals in maintaining professional competence through lifelong learning, continuing professional development, and attainment of advanced credentials.

01

Lifelong Learning

Ongoing development throughout one's career.

02

Continuing Professional Development

Self-directed, ongoing, outcomes-focused learning.

03

Advanced Credentials

Specialty certifications and credentials that support professional growth.

It doesn't replace the original statements — it brings them together under one broader vision.



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What Changed?

THE EVOLUTION

PREVIOUSLY	NEW UNIFIED POSITION
Two separate statements	One unified statement
Pharmacists & technicians explicitly named	"Pharmacy Professionals"
Maintaining competence	Maintaining competence and advancing practice
CPD and CPE	CPD + experiential learning + collaboration
Credentials as a separate focus	Credentials integrated into lifelong learning
Focus on individual responsibility	Encourages health-system support

Professional development is both an individual responsibility and something health-systems can help enable.



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What Does This Mean for You?
A position statement can help you:

Plan	Identify professional development goals
Pursue	CE, certifications, and advanced credentials
Advocate	Articulate the value of development to your organization
Grow	Develop skills for current and future roles
Improve	Support professional practice and patient care

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CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Audience Question 1

Which of the following best reflects the key change represented by ICHP's new unified position statement?

- A** It replaces continuing education requirements with certification requirements.
- B** It combines continuing professional development and advanced credentials into a broader framework supporting lifelong learning and professional growth.
- C** It establishes specific certifications that all pharmacists and technicians should obtain.
- D** It provides CE credit for professional development activities.

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YOUR TURN TO REFLECT: Q2

// Think about your current role. How could you use this position statement to advocate for your own professional development – or support the development of a colleague?

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We need your help...

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DISCUSS AT YOUR TABLES

Questions for Your Table

1

Fit

Is this an issue that belongs in an ICHP position statement?

2

Evidence

What new information is/may be available on this topic?

3

Impact

What benefits, potential concerns, or unintended consequences should ICHP consider?

4

Gaps

What else may be missing related to this topic?



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REPORT BACK

Share With the Room

1

The Statement

Which position statement?

2

The Takeaways

Key takeaways from the group discussion?

3

Keep Going

Turn in your worksheets if you have more to say on this topic.

Every table's perspective shapes the final statement.



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YOUR TURN TO REFLECT: Q3



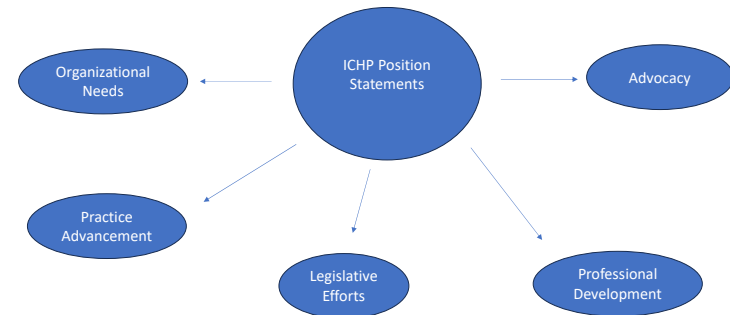
Think about an issue you've encountered in your own practice. If you could have ICHP take a position on one pharmacy issue, what would it be?



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How are Position Statements Useful to Me?



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PUTTING THEM TO WORK

How Members Can Use Position Statements

1 Individual (Pharmacist/Technician)

- Strengthen presentations/publications
- Support proposed initiatives (e.g., new programs, certification)
- Quality assurance tool

2 Organization/Leadership

- Build policies
- Support proposed initiatives
- Demonstrate alignment with professional standards

The same statement works at the bedside and in the boardroom.



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GET INVOLVED

How to Get Involved

1

Join a Division

Contribute directly to the work of a Division of your choice

2

Suggest Topics

Bring new position statement ideas to ICHP leadership

3

Review Drafts

Read drafts and provide commentary during review

4

Town Halls

Participate in ICHP Town Hall initiatives

5

Stay Connected

Follow ICHP activity on social media



Every position statement starts with a member who spoke up.



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CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Audience Question 4

Which of the following is/are way(s) pharmacists can get involved in the ICHP position statement process?

- A Submit requests to ICHP leadership
- B Raise an idea during an ICHP Town Hall Meeting
- C Join a committee or division
- D All of the above

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YOUR VOICE MATTERS

We Need Your Voice!



1

Identify

Spot issues and needs in your own practice

2

Share

Bring those ideas and needs to ICHP

3

Get Involved

Help shape the statement that results

Position statements are strongest when they reflect our collective experience. Your ideas can help shape pharmacy practice in Illinois and beyond.



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References

- Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) Position Statements: Continuing Professional Development. Last Reviewed 2/ 2024. Accessed August 13, 2026. https://www.ichpnet.org/aws/ICHP/asset_manager/get_file/950664?ver=2
- Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) Position Statements: Support of Advances Credentials for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians. Last Reviewed 1/ 2022. Accessed August 13, 2026. https://www.ichpnet.org/aws/ICHP/asset_manager/get_file/950971?ver=2



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OPEN DISCUSSION

Questions and Comments?

What questions do you have about ICHP position statements, and what topics should the Division of Professional Affairs consider next?



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ICHP Position Statement - Intermediate and OTC Category of Drug Products

The Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) supports the switch of drugs from legend status to over the counter (OTC) status when the drug can be used by consumers safely and effectively to treat select medical conditions that can be self-diagnosed and managed without medical supervision.

ICHP recognizes the trend toward greater consumer participation in their healthcare and that having greater access to some medications facilitates self-care.

ICHP supports the development of an intermediate category of non-prescription drugs that would be available from pharmacists. Pharmacists would provide these drugs to patients along with appropriate clinical assessment, monitoring and professional consultation. Examples include, but not limited to, of such drugs include statins, oseltamivir, oral contraceptives injectable epinephrine to treat anaphylaxis, inhaled corticosteroids, leukotriene modifiers, inhaled beta2 agonists for asthma, select therapies for osteoporosis and hypertension, and vaccines.

The Intermediate Category of Drug Products has also been referred to as "behind-the-counter drugs", "pharmacist-only drugs".

References

1. Anon. ASHP statement on criteria for an intermediate category of drug products. (<https://www.ashp.org/-/media/assets/policy-guidelines/docs/statements/criteria-intermediate-class-of-drugs.ashx> , last accessed 1/25/2023).
2. Anon. Council on Therapeutics 2116: Nonprescription availability of oseltamivir. Report on Implementation of 2021 ASHP House of Delegates Actions. (<https://www.ashp.org/-/media/assets/policy-guidelines/docs/browse-by-document-type-policy-positions-1982-2017-with-rationales-pdf.ashx>, last accessed 1/25/2023).
3. Anon. ASHP position statement 1410 on Access to oral contraceptives through a intermediate category of drug products. (<https://www.ashp.org/-/media/assets/policy-guidelines/docs/browse-by-document-type-policy-positions-1982-2017-with-rationales-pdf.ashx>, last accessed 1/25/2023).

4. Anon. ASHP Statement on the over-the-counter availability of statins., Am J Health-Syst-Pharm 2005;62:2420-2422.

Reviewed 09/2014, 06/2017, 01/2018, 02/2021, 02/2023

ICHP Position Statement - Political Candidate Endorsement

The Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) does not endorse political candidates for election. However, the ICHP Pharmacy Action Fund (an Illinois registered political action committee) does financially support candidates for Illinois office who champion the advancement of pharmacy practice and the improvement of patient care by pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

ICHP does encourage the active individual participation of its members in political campaigns and other political activities that facilitate the improved delivery of health care and further implementation of pharmacy-related patient care services.

References

1. ASHP position statement on advocacy as a professional obligation.
(<https://www.ashp.org/-/media/assets/policy-guidelines/docs/statements/advocacy-as-a-professional-obligation.ashx?la=en&hash=86A3462AC998184E0779119F6A1C58D6DC527F5E>, last accessed 12/5/2022)

Reviewed 12/2022

Board Approved 3/2023