

INTERN NEWS



**Pharmaceutical
Society of Australia
(Queensland Branch)**

WORKSTATIONS 9TH MAY 2008

Assessments will be held on the 9th May 2008 at "The Gabba" Corporate Boxes, at The Brisbane Cricket Ground in Woolloongabba.

It is recommended that you have completed 1400 hours before attempting Workstations.

Assessment Allocation Day & Time:

A timetable has been sent to ALL Interns with a schedule that outlines the location, day and time that you are required to attend. You will be required to bring photo proof of identity.

The Actual Assessment:

On the day of the workstation assessment, Interns should dress as they do for the pharmacy or ward environment. Interns who do not dress as requested will NOT be assessed.

Interns who do not have a particular uniform should dress in appropriate corporate style clothing. Pants/ Skirt/Shirt. No T shirts or thongs will be allowed.

You will be presented with a variety of 6 scenarios, all of which will be based on situations that occur in every day pharmacy practice. For example, a scenario may be based on a request for a non-prescription product, may be a symptom-based request or may require you to deal with a variety of circumstances relating to prescription medications.

We use assessors and patients, where applicable, and each station is unrelated to all other stations. All scenarios are altered or changed between different groups of Interns to provide equity of assessment.

There is no specific study required for this assessment as it is intended to assess your ability to practice in a competent and professional manner, as you do in your everyday work. To pass the assessment - an Intern must be assessed as competent in at least 5 of the 6 scenarios.

Any Intern who has failed the APCAT exam will be required to re-sit the APCAT exam if they are not assessed as competent after 2 attempts at the workstation.

HOW CAN YOU PREPARE FOR THE WORKSTATION ASSESSMENT.

There are 3 basic types of problems a pharmacist may be called upon to solve

- Those arising from the patient
- Those due to drug therapy
- Those related to the diagnosis

Before you can come up with an assessment and solve the patient's problem(s) you must first collect the information.

This includes:

Who is it for

What is it for

Other medications

Other conditions

Allergies?

OTC, CAM

Identify reason for patient's request.

Consider all active and inactive medical problems

Evaluate drug therapy (eg NSAID with ulcer)

Consider all medications being taken

Review the appropriateness of the medication being requested.

Act accordingly (e.g. ring Dr re script)

HOW DOES ONE PREPARE

Counsel all patients with a new prescription

Call Drs when there is an issue to discuss

Check all dispensing before presenting to the Pharmacist to check. Preceptor should tell Pre-registrant there is a mistake without pointing the mistake out. Have pre-reg find the mistake.



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Check the PSAQ
Website regularly
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**Newsletters
along with other
information
regarding the
Pre-Reg Program
and PSAQ
events are
available to read
and download
from our
website.**

CPD&PI UPDATE (ACHIEVING YOUR 40 POINTS).

- Essential CPD is available from the PSA website in "Educational Calendars", "Other PSA Educations Activities". Modules that are available include Compliance/Adherence and Dementia. These modules attract 6 CPD points each.
- The Australian Pharmacist has a section "CPD & PI", knowledge in practice which allows you to complete questions for a range of credit points.

Members also have the option of completing the assessment in the Members-only area of PSA's website. The Australia Pharmacist CPD & PI answers can be submitted online at www.psa.org.au. You will receive automatic feedback and you will be allocated credit points once completed. Note though that **Credit points are only allocated if 80% of your questions are correct.** So do take your time to ensure you read the articles they questions relate to.

- CE lectures coming up (check your email closer to the time for details):
 - Gold Coast—21/04/08
 - Cairns—06/05/08
 - Brisbane—06/05/08
 - Sunshine Coast—12/05/08
 - Townsville—10/05/08
 - Rockhampton—21/05/08
- Once you have completed the NPS audit you will be allocated 8 CPD & PI points. NPS will notify PSA of completion of the audit by forwarding your name to PSA.
- You cannot count the First Aid certificate course towards your 40 points.
- Remember at least 6 CPD points must be face to face activities.



Continuing professional education at your convenience. The service offers a range of professional education topics for pharmacists including:

Asthma, Heart Health, Mental Health, Diabetes, Weight Management, Pain, Women's Health, Gastrointestinal disorders and Skin disorders. And each month new topics will be added.

A unique aspect of the service is that it offers modules in 15 minute bites. Even if you only have a limited amount of time you can complete a module, in your own time and space.

For more information and cost to join call Murali at

the PSA National Office

(02) 6283 4773.