ALABAMA BOARD OF PHARMACY

Board Status and Work
Susan Alverson
Finding Us.

• Moved out further on highway 280.
• Close to hwy 119 and hwy 280
• Turn into Greystone on Hugh Daniels
• First stoplight on right corner

• 205 981-2280
LICENSING

• We have 5 people who handle licensing
• Register technicians in odd number years
• Register pharmacists and all businesses in even number years.
• Moving toward submitting all data online
• We are required to have proof of citizenship or right to be in country
• All payments on line.
Inspections/Investigations

• We have 7 investigators. All have a criminal justice degree-- state law.
• We work to inspect all pharmacies every 2 years.
• Now, we are working to inspect all compounding pharmacies in the state.
• Staff also does the investigation for all complaints.
Pharmacists

• We have 2 pharmacists who are part of compounding inspections
• Answer questions that come to the Board.
• Help with training for inspections.
• Assist with organizing our documentation and communication for investigations.
New

CE—have 2 years to obtain CE hours

• Techs—3 hours per year and 1 hour live
• 6 total hours in 2 years and of which 2 live
• Pharmacists – 15 hours per year and 3 of those are live 30 total hours and 6 must be live
Non-sterile compounding

• Facility design for non-sterile compounding –
  • this is not a new law, we have it in the rules portion of pharmacy law.
  • It states must have cleanable ceiling, walls, counter, floors.
  • A clean sink with hot and cold running water accessible.
  • Must use purified water for compounding.
  • Record lot and expiration date of ingredients; show calculations.
Others

– Adjusted pharmacy student hours that they can meet state requirements through school.
– USP 800 chemotherapy
– Looking at pharmacist in charge
– Trying to make all registrations easy, online and paperless
New FDA regs.

• No compounding for physician offices
• May not ship over 30% across state lines
• Managed by state office
• Everything is for a single patient
• For 503b—may ship any amount
• May sell to physicians
• Only 14 days on injectables and only drugs from FDA approved list
Challenges

• Who to approve for a license
• When to remove a license
• Should technicians need more training
• Should high risk compounding need more training
Change is coming faster than ever

• Education is not only valuable for the “facts” you learn, but for your ability to solve problems.
• We can design systems, the question is who is looking at solving the problem?
• What craziness drives payment in healthcare?
COMPOUNDING

- We see poor facilities,
- lead pharmacists who obviously don’t know the guidelines,
- Owners who are in it only for the money,
- people who are not well trained,
- hospitals that won’t spend what is needed to protect patients,
- drugs that have been shipped into the country illegally.
Our Actions

• We have closed some pharmacies,
• have required others to revamp and get more training,
• have made simple suggestions for some,
• and have been pleased when we see others that do so much right.
• Working with medical and nursing boards