The Indpendent Times

GPhA

Spring Edition

2025

The Academy of Independent Pharmacy Newsletter



An Official Publication of GPhA's Academy of Independent Pharmacy:

The mission of AIP is to ensure the economic viability and security of independent pharmacy. AIP seeks to advance the concept of pharmacy care, designed to enhance patient quality of life and increase positive outcomes.

2025-'26 GPhA AIP Board of Directors

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Amanda Gaddy,
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EATING AN ELEPHANT: SCOTT MEEKS

For all my life, I have heard the adage that to eat an elephant you have to start by taking one bite at a time. Some things in life seem just too large to process, and to successfully handle the situation, one must break it down into bitesize chunks. This was the case for all my friends that had to deal with the destruction resulting from Hurricane Helene this past September.

The memory of looking at the devastation after the sun came up after that night will be forever burned into my mind. A lifetime of work had been destroyed in a period of 4 hours. I remember that it took a few days to even process everything and devise a gameplan to rebuild. One of my helpers asked me where we were going to start, and my response was it would be like eating an elephant...." we are going to eat one toenail at a time until we can see the light at end of tunnel".

A few days later, I was having a moment, and I asked him "how many dang toenails does an elephant actually have"? He just kind of smiled at me and said that it did not matter, they all had to be eaten before we could get to the rest of the animal. And with that, we continue to nip away trying to regroup and rebuild.

Independent Pharmacy has been under the attack of hurricanes for years. I don't know how everyone else feels, but to me it seems like the destruction to our profession is beyond repair. The one thing that I do know is that we are some of the most resilient people in this world and if any profession can survive, it will be us. For the first time in years, we have Congress on our side and are promising that they will help us cut the PBMs down into portions that can be handled. Just like eating an elephant will be hard, getting change in how we are reimbursed will not be easy. If we all continue to work together and be diligent, we will see change and our profession be restored.

Our two bills have passed out of the House and Senate with almost unanimous support. Watch for a Call to Action from GPhA/AIP to help push this across the Governor's desk for approval. Your help is vital!!!



AIP WISDOM SWAP COMING TO A CITY NEAR YOU!



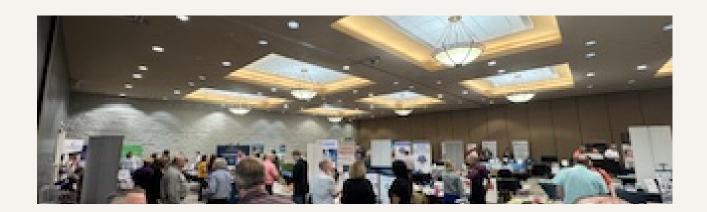




If you would like to host an AIP Wisdom Swap, Contact Jonathan Marquess JMarquess@gpha.org!

AIP SPRING

MEETING RECAP





Expo Hall

The 2025 AIP Spring Meeting Expo Hall provided an awesome opportunity for exhibitors and members alike to network and discuss common independent pharmacy challenges and successes.



Vol. 02

AIP SPRING MEETING



Discussions ranged from implementing reimbursement solutions to developing specialized services, proving that independence fuels ingenuity. Witness the future of pharmacy, shaped by those who know their patients best.





Have an idea for a C.E. Program? Let us know!

AIP SPRING MEETING C.E. LINE-UP



The Georgia Hemp Farming Act: Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, Tyler Harper



Update from the D.E.A.

Dawn Bauer

D.E.A. Diversion Investigator



Small Tweaks, BIG Impact-The Power of Incremental Changes with Gabe Trahan



The 2025 Pharmacy
Accounting Playbook:
Maximize Cash Flow, Tackle
Tax Changes, & Stay Ahead
of Industry Challenges:
Sykes and Company



Reducing Cost of Goods and Boosting Profitability: Pharmacy Marketplace-Wade Hinkle

www.GPhA.org

HOW TO: "THRIVE IN 2025"

Top Tips to Take Your Pharmacy to the Next Level







Contact your MSR today to discuss the next steps of starting one of these programs!



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AIP "Thrive in 25" Tour









LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



H.B. 196

House Bill 196
States that SHBP administered by CVS Caremark will pay independent pharmacies
NADAC+\$11.50.



"Get Into Politics or Get Out of Pharmacy!"
-Doug Hoey, CEO of NCPA





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A REMINDER FOR YOUR NEXT INSPECTION

"It shall be the responsibility of the pharmacist on duty to sign the invoice(s), including signature, legible Georgia pharmacist license number, and date, for all controlled substances upon receipt and verification."

Update from The Georgia Board of Pharmacy on Technician C.E.

The Board has decided to waive the 20-hour continuing education requirement for Pharmacy Technician registration renewals for the upcoming cycle.



There is, however, one very important exception to this waiver of the CE requirement: The 2-hour continuing education requirement for immunizing Pharmacy Technicians is still required prior to renewal, as this is stipulated in the law that expanded immunization administration.

This decision was made due to a significant amount of public feedback. Pharmacy Technician registration renewals are due by June 30th, and the renewal portal is open on the Board's website.

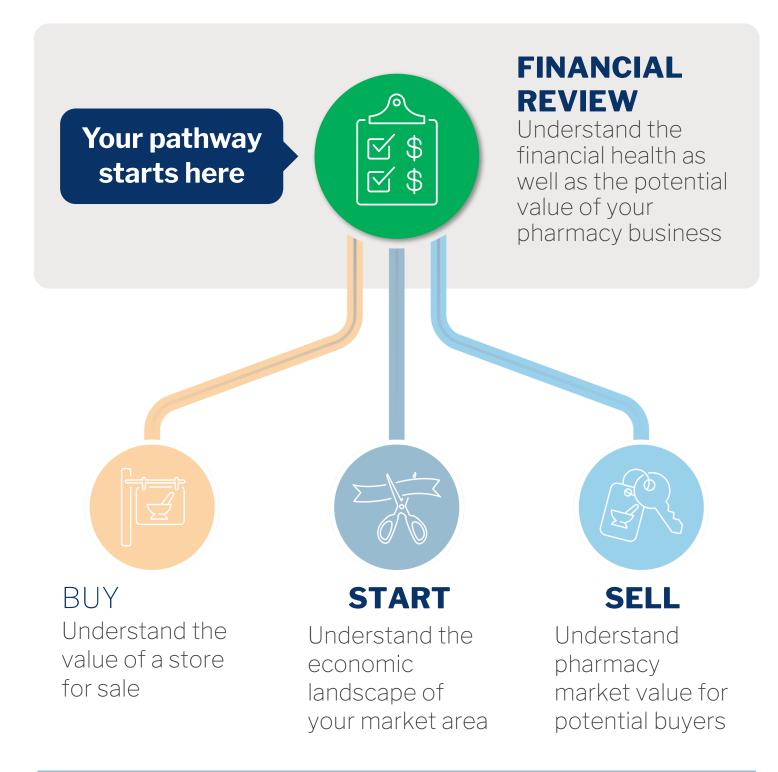


AUDIT ALERT AUDIT ALERT AUDIT ALERT

A HOT Audit Tip from AIP's Director of Clinical Services, Amanda Gaddy:

Ensure that ALL GLP1 prescriptions have the correct diagnosis code & watch day supply between starter dose and maintenance dose

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AIP Fall Meeting 2025 on September 20-21st, 2025 in a City Near You!

Have an idea for a CE Program? Let us know!



THANK YOU TO THE PARTNERS OF AIP

























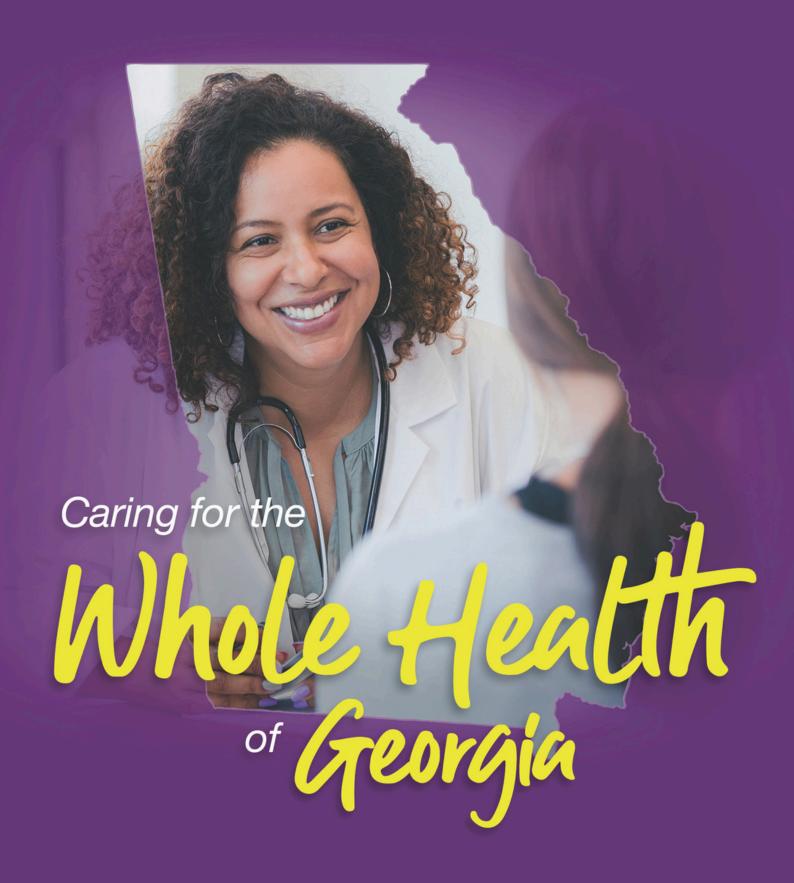


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AIP WHOLESALER PARTNERS: THANK YOU!

MCKESSON

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If for some reason you have recently changed wholesalers, please contact your Member Service Representative to update your paperwork.

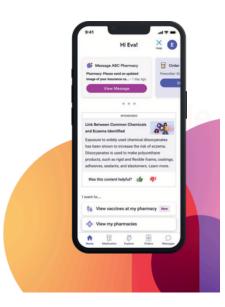
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AIP MAKES HISTORY

Board Election 2025



In a landmark move, the Academy of Independent Pharmacy empowers its members with a fully democratic election process. For the first time, every voice will shape the organization's future as the entire membership casts their votes for new board members, marking a historic moment of inclusivity and shared leadership.





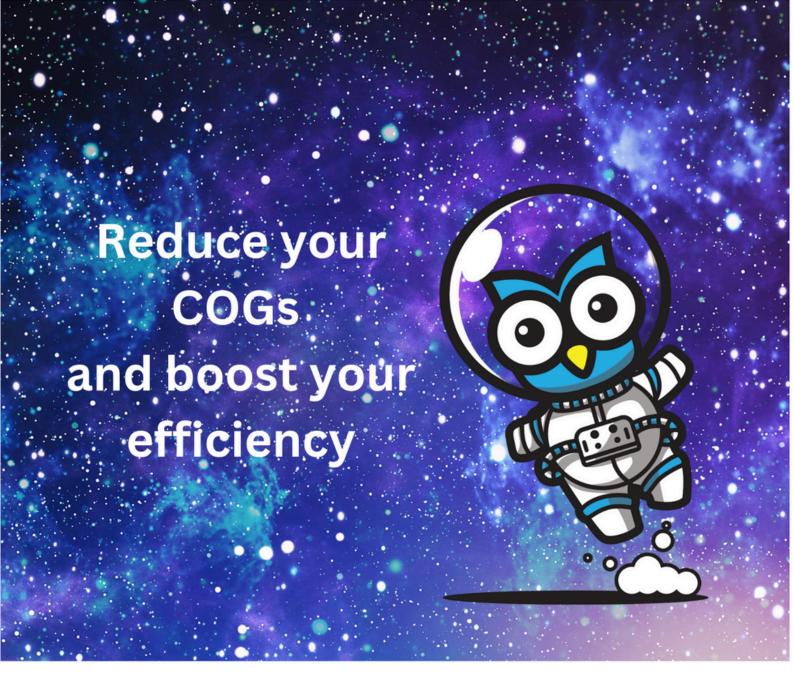


Importance of Immunizations in Independent Pharmacy

Are you currently administering immunizations in your pharmacy?

Immunizations can be a great additional stream of revenue for your pharmacy and are a valuable service to the community that you serve.

Contact your MSR Today for GPhA's Immunization Protocol-Updated to include ALL ACIP Approved Immunizations!



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THANK YOU



Thank you to our AIP Members for your continued support of the Academy of Independent Pharmacy. Because of YOU, Independent Pharmacy is stronger!

AIP Mission Statement

To advance the concept of pharmacy care. To ensure the economic viability and security of Independent Pharmacy; To provide a forum for Independent Pharmacy to exchange information and develop strategies, goals and objectives; To address the unique business and professional issues of independent pharmacies; To develop and implement marketing opportunities for members of the Academy with emphasis on the third party prescription drug program/benefit market; To provide educational programs designed to enhance the managerial skills of Independent Pharmacy Owners and Managers; and, To establish and implement programs and services designed to assist Independent Pharmacy Owners and Managers.

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