

New service offers added protection for APNS members

APNS members now have a new level of protection when dealing with issues related to federal and state regulations as well as PBM contractual requirements.



Medversant verification services are now part of APNS membership. Some of the services Medversant will perform for member pharmacies include verifying DEA registrations and state licenses for pharmacists; verifying liability insurance; checking federal exclusions for all employees; and more.

"Medversant protects our members," said Angie Shirley, Director of Managed Care and Audit Prevention at APNS. "All of these (verifications) are requirements of PBMs. It's a mandate on the pharmacy to have certain things in place."

APNS has always required certain verified information from its members, but relied upon its members to conduct ongoing monitoring. The new service expands verification to all pharmacy employees on an ongoing basis.

"In the past, APNS had no way to know that a pharmacy was doing everything they were supposed to do, as it related to PBMs and contracts," Shirley said. "We do an initial monitoring and know that certain credentials are in place on the front end, but, we only required

information on the pharmacist in charge, techs, and the owner. On the back end, the pharmacy had to do monthly monitoring on all of their employees to ensure they haven't landed on an exclusion list. There was no way for us to know that it was happening."

For the past several weeks, APNS members have been adding all employee information to their pharmacy credentials so that Medversant will have the information they need to conduct ongoing verification. In addition, Medversant will also provide APNS members with information and templates for codes of conduct, policy and procedure manuals, and HIPAA information.

"It's going to be protection for the PSAO and protection for the pharmacy," Shirley said. "A lot of things are mandated in the contract, but they haven't actually been audited. We want to make sure that every member has everything they need. Now we know that they are going to be covered."

For more information about Medversant, contact APNS.

Marquess honored by APhA

APCI member Jonathan Marquess was recently honored by the American Pharmacists' Association as the recipient of the Daniel B. Smith Practice Excellence Award.

The award, presented by the APhA's Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management, "recognizes a pharmacy practitioner, in any practice setting, who has distinguished himself/herself and the profession through outstanding performance and achievements."

Marquess presently serves on the APCI Board of Directors, and with his wife, Pam,

owns multiple independent pharmacies in Georgia. Jonathan specializes in diabetes care and earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Mercer University.

Throughout his career, Dr. Marquess has been actively involved in local, state, and national professional organizations. He is a Past President of the Georgia Pharmacy Association (GPhA). Currently, he serves on the APhA Board of Trustees. In 2008, Marquess was awarded the Innovative Pharmacist of the Year from GPhA. In 2012, he was named the Independent Pharmacist of the Year from the Georgia Academy of Independent Pharmacists.



Marquess and the other APhA Awards and Honors Program honorees will be officially recognized at the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Baltimore, Maryland, March 4-7, 2016.