



ASHP Foundation News Release

ASHP Foundation Junior Investigator Grantee Receives ISPOR Best New Investigator Podium Research Presentation Award

BETHESDA, Md. (July 21, 2011) – Leticia R. Moczygamba, Pharm.D., Ph.D., a researcher supported by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Research and Education Foundation’s Junior Investigator Research Grant, has received the 2011 Best New Investigator Podium Research Presentation Award from the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) (<http://www.ispor.org/awards/16meet.asp>).

The ISPOR Best Contributed Podium and Poster Presentation Awards were established in 1998 to recognize the scientific merit of presentations of the ISPOR Annual International Meetings, Annual European Congresses, and Asia-Pacific Conferences. At this year’s European Congress, the ISPOR Awards Committee evaluated approximately 64 podium presentations and over 700 poster presentations.

Dr. Moczygamba’s research, “12 Month Outcomes of a Pharmacist-Provided Telephone Medication Therapy,” was funded through a 2009 ASHP Foundation Junior Investigator Research Grant, which supports practice-based research in medication use conducted by pharmacist new investigators. Dr. Moczygamba, an assistant professor at the Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, conducted her study with guidance from a senior investigator, Jamie C. Barner, Ph.D.

When Medicare Part D was passed in 2003, not only were prescription medications covered, but management of these medications, called medication therapy management (MTM), was also included as a benefit. Pharmacists were specifically named as one of the providers for this type of service, which includes a medication review along with several other medication-related patient care services. The purpose of MTM is to improve medication use by promoting medication adherence, preventing adverse medication events and optimizing patient outcomes.

Dr. Moczygamba’s study examined the outcomes from a pharmacist-provided telephone MTM program to determine the impact of the MTM program on medication and health-related problems, medication adherence and total Part D drug costs during a 12-month period, highlighting the role that pharmacists have in helping patients manage their medications and demonstrate the value of pharmacists as MTM providers. The 60 Medicare Part D beneficiaries that received a pharmacist-provided telephone MTM consultation had a greater decrease in the number of medication and health-related problems when compared to a control group. Total Part D drug costs decreased by \$588 in the intervention group and increased by \$207 in the control group. There were no differences in medication adherence between the two groups.

“Our study has found that a telephone MTM program can result in decreased medication and health-related problems and a trend in drug cost savings for Medicare Part D patients,” said Dr. Moczygemba. “Future research should focus on understanding predictors that impact adherence and cost-related MTM outcomes. It is an honor to be recognized by ISPOR for this research.”

Dr. Moczygemba acknowledged and thanked her co-investigators, Jamie Barner, Ph.D., and Evelyn Gabrillo, Pharm.D., “and the ASHP Foundation for providing funding support for this study.”

For More Information

For more information about Dr. Moczygemba’s study, read her abstract by visiting <http://www.ashpfoundation.org/MainMenuCategories/ResearchResourceCenter/ResearchPublications/OnGoingResearchAbstracts/MocAbstract.aspx>.

For more information about the Junior Investigator Research Grant Program, which has been renamed the New Investigator Research Grant Program, please visit www.ashpfoundation.org/newinvestigator.

About the ASHP Foundation

The ASHP Research and Education Foundation (www.ashpfoundation.org) was established in 1968 by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (www.ashp.org) as a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. As the philanthropic arm of ASHP, our vision is that patient outcomes improve because of the leadership and clinical skills of pharmacists, as vital members of the health care team, accountable for safe and effective medication use. Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of patients in health systems through appropriate, safe and effective medication use.

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