

PANEL ON ACCELERATING EFFECTIVE PHARMACY PRACTICE MODELS: CHALLENGES OF STANDARDIZATION FROM THE PROVIDER AND PAYER PERSPECTIVES - The National Clinical Pharmacy Specialist Program

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The pharmacy profession has the capacity and skills to help bridge the gap between the goal of optimal health for patients and the maximal use of all health professionals within their scope of practice.

A number of lessons have been learned by the National Clinical Pharmacy Specialist Program (NCPS) in the process of developing a national program of pharmacist-delivered services that was consistent in process and quality. This includes clinical credentialing of clinical pharmacy specialists, uniform clinical competency through national certification, and universal recognition of pharmacists as billable health care providers. NCPS utilizes Collaborative Practice Agreements to encourage uniformity in process, scope, and quality. This includes clinical policy and procedures for Collaborative Drug Therapy Management.

The NCPS program attempted to demonstrate value via an online survey of collaborating physicians where 96% of the physician-respondents (n=117) reported improved patient outcomes, return on investment and improved patient access to care. These data are not yet publishable. Recommendations for action will be discussed.