

Medication Recycling Bill HF 2987/SF 2562

University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy

Project Description and Implementation Overview

Twenty states in the US have comprehensive medication recycling programs, and thirteen states have cancer repositories – including Minnesota. All thirteen of these cancer repositories are non-operational, however the states with more general medication recycling have had great successes. A dedicated group of 3 students worked to introduce a medication repository bill to the 2018 Minnesota legislative session. This was achieved through researching medication recycling programs across the US, speaking with various mentors across the field of pharmacy for guidance, meeting with stakeholder organizations, meeting with members of congress to identify authors and gaining the MN Board of Pharmacy's support.

One very rewarding aspect of this project was sharing our process with our peers to show how possible it is to change laws as a student, and provide motivation to peruse advocacy measures. We presented the topic of medication recycling, the process of how to create a bill to bring to congress, and the progress we've made as a committee.

Purpose of the Project

- Lower the cost of medications for uninsured or underinsured Minnesotans.
- Improve health outcomes of Minnesota residents due to increased medication adherence due to higher medication availability and lower costs.
- Lower the overall healthcare cost to the state by reducing healthcare problems related to adherence
- Removes pollutants from environment

Project Budget: Expenses and Revenues

Through printing sell-sheets and research materials for presentations we spent \$100 of our own money over the past 9 months. No other direct costs were associated with this project.

Who and How Many Chapter Members are Involved?

The Public Health Advocacy Committee presented to ~300 U of MN pharmacy students and ~35 AMCP students. There were 5 AMCP members who acted as the grassroots forces to reach out to members of congress to request hearings. The committee is made up of Hannah Van Ochten of AMCP- University of Minnesota Student Chapter, Rowan Mahon of the Public Health Advocacy Student Alliance and Emily Klein of the College of Medicine.

Who should be targeted? Audience or Involvement? How Do You Find Them? How Do you Contact them?

We contacted a large variety of people to identify a strategy and gain support including...

- Mentors from within the school
- Stakeholder Organizations including SEIU Healthcare, Minnesota Pharmacist Association, Minnesota Public Health Association, Minnesota Nursing Association, Minnesota Board of Nursing and School Nurses of Minnesota
- Members of MN Congress
 - House Authors: Kiel (Chief Author), Schultz, Albright, Liebling and Schomacker
 - Senate Authors: Abler (Chief Author), Lourey, Eaton and Jensen
- Minnesota Board of Pharmacy – Dr. Cody Wiberg, the executive director, was able to write the final draft of the bill modeled after Iowa's SafetyNet Rx program alongside the Senate's healthcare researcher.
- Pharmacy students at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy
- Medical students and nursing students from the University of Minnesota's Center for Health Interprofessional Programs

What materials are Needed? Outside Resources, Ordering, etc?

N/A

Timeline for Implementation and Execution

Date	Activity	Responsible Party
Summer 2017	Researching medication recycling programs in other states, connecting to SIRUM	Public Health Advocacy Committee
Fall 2017	Working with SIRUM and SafetyNet Rx in Iowa to identify language	Public Health Advocacy Committee
Fall 2017	Meeting with MN State Representatives and Senators to spread awareness, gain support and advice, and collect chief authors	Public Health Advocacy Committee
Winter 2017-18	Meeting with stakeholder organizations including MNA, MPhA, SNOM, MPHA and SEIU Healthcare	Public Health Advocacy Committee
December 2017	Dr. Wiberg agreed to help us draft legislation	MN Board of Pharmacy
Winter 2017-18	Meeting with MN State Representatives and Senators to collect additional authors. Calls made to senators requesting hearings.	Public Health Advocacy Committee and various AMCP members and pharmacy students
January 16, 2018	Board of Pharmacy Monthly Meeting – Voted to not oppose, and allow Dr. Wiberg to continue drafting	Public Health Advocacy Committee
January 22, 2018	Bill jacketed and HF and SF numbers received	MN State Government
January 31, 2017	Presentation to all PD2 students	Public Health Advocacy Committee
March 13, 2018	House Committee Reading: Health and Human Services Policy	Public Health Advocacy Committee and MN State Government
March 20, 2018	House Committee Reading: Civil Law and Data Practices	Public Health Advocacy Committee and MN State Government
March 27, 2018	House Committee Reading: Public Safety	Public Health Advocacy Committee and MN State Government
March 29, 2018	Presentation to all PD1 students	Public Health Advocacy Committee

Follow-up with Faculty Member/Volunteers/Participants

The 2018 Minnesota Legislative Session is still underway. As for all supporters, classmates and mentors, we have been continuously updating them on our progress and identifying ways for them to get involved through calls to representatives and senators.

Project Evaluation:

What Went Well? What Didn't? How Would You Improve for the Next Year?

What worked?

Speaking to a variety of organizations and seeking mentorship in U of MN faculty and MN members of congress. By meeting with such a wide range of people, we were able to receive a lot of guidance and feedback in planning future steps. We came to every meeting with faculty, member of congress, pharmacy student and stakeholder organization prepared with facts and passion.

What didn't work?

We didn't gain enough support from peers and professionals. Whether this bill passes into law or not, we hope to further our grassroots efforts by building a stronger base of students and professionals to make calls, write pieces for the press, and arrange meetings to really get the word out about medication recycling. Whether that is to pass this bill into law, or to get long term care facilities, nursing homes, clinics and pharmacies to participate – we need to work on building a stronger network to support our efforts. As this bill has typically been passed by nurses, we hope to find more nursing students and organizations to work with along the way.

Timeline/Checklist for Project

Done:

- ✓ Initial background research
- ✓ Stakeholders and supporters identified
- ✓ Legislation written
- ✓ House authors identified
- ✓ Senate authors identified
- ✓ Bill introduced and jacketed
- ✓ Bill approved by house committees (in progress)

To Do:

- Have bill read on floor
- Have bill get to Minnesota Senate, likely through the healthcare omnibus
- Have bill be voted on and pass
- Have Governor Mark Dayton sign bill
- Keep track of central repository progress
- Identify pharmacies, clinics, long term care facilities and assisted living facilities that would be interested in participating
- Reach out to patients who could benefit from this program, and the providers and professionals that care for them

If Bill Doesn't Pass:

- Reach out to Minnesota press to promote coverage of medication recycling
- Grow stronger base of student and professional support through presentations and marketing
- Find additional stakeholder organizations to sign letters of support
- Continue to work with current authors in house and senate to keep this bill on their minds

Flyers, Agendas, etc. (Optional)

- House File:
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/bill.php?b=House&f=HF2987&ssn=0&y=2018>
- Senate File:
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/bill.php?b=Senate&f=SF2562&ssn=0&y=2018>

