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Call for Comments on Pharmacist's Fundamental Responsibilities and Rights
APhA and NASPA collaborate in development of document to facilitate discussions for change

WASHINGTON, DC -- The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) and the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) have released the [*Pharmacist's Fundamental Responsibilities and Rights \(Fundamentals\)*](#) for public comment. The *Fundamentals* principles focus on pharmacists' responsibilities and workplace expectations by addressing pharmacists' professional responsibilities as outlined in the *Oath of a Pharmacist*, the *Pharmacist Code of Ethics*, and scopes of pharmacy practice, along with addressing essential rights to which pharmacists are entitled so that their responsibilities can be fulfilled.

The *Fundamentals* principles reflect the issues of concern national and state pharmacy organizations have heard expressed by pharmacy personnel. The *Fundamentals* principles can be used to facilitate meaningful dialogue and action among pharmacists, pharmacy personnel, and pharmacy employers to enhance the pharmacy workplace and patient safety.

APhA and NASPA will be holding virtual Town Hall meetings on April 6, 2021, at 7pm (ET) and April 7, 2021, at 7pm (ET) to discuss the *Fundamentals* and hear from interested parties. Register for the April 6th Town Hall [here](#). Register for the April 7th Town Hall [here](#). Registration is required to attend.

APhA and NASPA also invite written comments via email to wellbeing@aphanet.org through April 28, 2021.

APhA and NASPA joined together in this activity to address recommendations from the July 2019 *Enhancing Well-Being and Resilience Among the Pharmacist Workforce: A National Consensus Conference* focused on working conditions and patient safety.

Pharmacists and pharmacy personnel well-being continues to be a critical, complex issue for the profession and patient safety. The Well-Being Index for Pharmacy Personnel (WBI), invented by the Mayo Clinic and offered by APhA, found that nearly 33% of those who used the WBI are at a high risk for distress (as of 3/6/21). Researchers from Mayo Clinic have found that those pharmacists that are at a high risk for distress also have a:

- 3 fold higher risk of low quality of life
- 8 fold higher risk of burnout
- 2.5 fold higher risk of high fatigue
- 2.5 fold higher risk of intent to leave their current job
- 2-fold higher risk of medication error

Additional projects will be released soon including a state-based national survey to understand workplace conditions that may be occurring and may lead to increased stress and patient safety issues.

About the American Pharmacists Association

The American Pharmacists Association is the largest association of pharmacists in the United States advancing the entire pharmacy profession. Our expert staff, and strong volunteer leadership, including many experienced pharmacists, allow us to deliver vital leadership to help

pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists, student pharmacists and pharmacy technicians find success and satisfaction in their work, while advocating for changes that benefit them, their patients, and their communities. For more information, please visit www.pharmacist.com.

About the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations

The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations, founded in 1927 as the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives, is dedicated to enhancing the success of state pharmacy associations in their efforts to advance the profession of pharmacy. NASPA's membership is comprised of state pharmacy associations and over 70 other stakeholder organizations. NASPA promotes leadership, sharing, learning, and policy exchange among its members and pharmacy leaders nationwide. For more information, visit <https://nasma.us>

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