



**TEXAS STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
REPORT TO THE TEXAS PHARMACY CONGRESS**

February 19, 2014

I. CURRENT ISSUES.

A. Task Force on Pharmacy Technicians –

1. The Task Force is charged with:

- reviewing the current laws and rules relating to pharmacy technicians in Texas;
- reviewing literature and studies regarding the changing roles and duties of pharmacists and how these changes may impact the role of pharmacy technicians; and
- making recommendations to the Board for any changes to the current pharmacy technician laws and rules to allow pharmacy technicians to assist pharmacists in providing safe and quality pharmaceutical care to the citizens of Texas.

2. The first meeting of the Task Force was held on January 14, 2014, and another meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2014.

B. Status of a Prescription after a Prescriber Dies – TSBP has been working with the Medical Board to establish a standard interpretation of how long a prescription may be dispensed after the prescriber dies. At their February meeting, the Texas Medical Board decided that after a physician dies, the physician's prescription would be valid for a pharmacist to dispense up to a 30-day supply of a prescription drug, other than Schedule II Controlled Substances, to a patient based on the pharmacist's professional judgment.

C. Award for Board Executive Director – Gay Dodson, R.Ph, has been chosen as the 2014 NABP Honorary President. The Award will be presented during the NABP Annual meeting, May 17-20, 2014, in Phoenix.

II. ADOPTED RULES from the February 4, 2014, Board Meeting. (The adopted amendments will be published in the *Texas Register* in the near future and the rules will become effective in mid-March.

A. Amendments to §291.32 Concerning Class A Pharmacies, §291.53 Concerning Class B Pharmacies, and §291.153 Concerning Class G Pharmacies. These rules increase the ratio of pharmacists to pharmacy technicians in Class A and B pharmacies from 1:3 to 1:4 and in Class G pharmacies from 1:6 to 1:8.

B. Amendments to §291.125 Concerning Labeling in Pharmacies Utilizing Central Prescription Dispensing. These amendments modify the labeling requirements to delete the requirement that the address of both the central fill pharmacy and outsourcing pharmacy be on the prescription label, add definitions for central fill and outsourcing pharmacies, and make several clarifying amendments to the rules.

III. PROPOSED RULES from the August 6, 2013, Board Meeting. (The proposed amendments will be published in the Texas Register within the next few weeks and will be considered by the Board for adoption at the May 2014 meeting.)

Amendments to §281.64 Concerning Sanctions for Criminal Offenses. – The amendments update the sanctions for criminal offenses involving drugs and alcohol to be in line with the DSM5 guidelines.