



NPPA
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Educational Program Topic Suggestions & Call for Speakers 24th Annual, 2021 NPPA Conference (August 17-19)

Help us fill out the Educational Program & speaker roster at the upcoming 24th Annual 2020 NPPA Conference this August 17 through 19, at Bally's Las Vegas. The NPPA Conference is *ALL* about the Pharmacy Purchasing profession and the information you need to expand your knowledge of this complex and important field, by considering becoming a presenter, and hopefully refresh the enthusiasm you have for your career. Or, perhaps you've seen or heard of an interesting and applicable pharmacy purchasing related speaker that you can recommend.

Accepted speaker compensation includes a complimentary Attendee Registration (no fee), along with reimbursement of 2-4 Hotel Room Nights (dependent on length of presentation) at our Conference Hotel, Bally's Las Vegas. Speaker honorarium and additional travel expenses are negotiable, based on experience and presentation length. **Timeslots available** range from full sessions of 1-hour or 1-hour & 15/30 minutes (50/55 minutes of content for a 1-hour session); to shorter time lengths of 10/15 minutes to 20/30 minutes.

Topics to potentially speak on: *see below* for NPPA's list of *suggested* topics for an idea of what we look for to fill our Educational Program (or please suggest your own for consideration, if not listed there, as long as it relates to Pharmacy Purchasing). This year's topics were taken from ideas given in feedback by Pharmacy & GPO Attendees from previous years' NPPA Conferences and suggestions given by past NPPA Advisory Board members. However, if there is another pharmacy purchasing related subject not shown in our suggested list that you feel you can speak comfortably & passionately on, please feel free to submit your new topic for consideration.

Or, perhaps you've seen or heard an interesting and applicable speaker elsewhere to recommend; or are a representative of a vendor company interested in speaking. However with vendor speakers, please first be aware that each lecture must be general and non-promotional to the speaker and/or the facility/company they represent. In addition as a general rule, speakers employed by drug or supply vendors that provide or have a hand in the services or products they offer, *are not eligible* for the ACPE-accredited CE that comes with NPPA Conference attendee registration, due to their strict requirements in that respect. This means that unless we have room in our program for a non-CE/optional session, we would not be able to fit such a vendor-specific lecture in our program.

2021 NPPA Conference Educational Program Topic Suggestions

- Vaccines (all types):
 - Purchasing;
 - Storage;
 - Quantity for Inventory;
 - Expiration;
 - Challenges in Large vs. Small Hospitals.
- Influenza Season:
 - How the Flu Season Can Affect Purchasing of the Vaccines
 - Tracking Inventory of Vaccines (via spreadsheets or other)

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- USP Chapter 797 & 800 Rules for Pharmacy:
 - Sterile Handling/Preparation/Compounding, Storage & Distribution
 - Fingerprint & Media-fill Testing
 - Potency/Sample Testing
 - Cleaning/Disinfecting IV Room Protocols, Procedures & Guidelines (for daily, weekly & monthly duties)
 - Pharmacy Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
 - IV Room–Do’s, Don’t’s & Pitfalls
 - Preparing for inspections
- Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG):
 - Complexities of ordering
 - How many units to order
 - How many boxes to stock
- Storage of Medications:
 - Vaccines
 - Chemotherapy
 - Similar/Look-a-like Meds
- Changes Implemented in the Pharmacy:
 - Tools used to determine if change is worthwhile
 - Process of the change
 - Success/Failure of the change
 - How are results evaluated and communicated to Administration & Pharmacy Staff
- Inspections in the Pharmacy (by various agencies):
 - What Inspectors look for (based on what type of inspection)
 - Experiences & Tips learned after going through an inspection
- Drug Supply Chain Quality & Security Act (DSCSA) Information & Updates):
 - Information & Updates applicable to Pharmacy;
 - Requirements for Off-Site Clinics.
- Joint Commission Rules & Helpful Information
- Purchasing for Outpatient Pharmacies and/or Clinics
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Rules & Updates - How They Affect Pharmacy
- National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) Rules & Updates
- How and why Buyers should become a member of hospital’s P&T Committee
- Cost-Savings: Identifying & Tracking or How to Generate Savings (& the forms used to document them)
- Patient & Medication Safety (preventing errors, bedside barcoding, and more)

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- Regulations & Laws that affect Pharmacy Purchasing
- E-Pedigree "Track & Trace" Rules/3T's
- Improving Communications between GPO's & Pharmacy Buyers
- Organizational Ideas To Improve Workflow & Available Space
- Software Systems Used In Hospital Pharmacies
- Pharmacy & Doctors: Cultivating Relations & Improving Care
- Over-the-Counter Medications
- Reverse Distribution
- Barcoding Tips & Tricks (scanning & other)
- Rural/Critical Access Hospital Pharmacy needs & information
- Pharmacy Inventory Management & Control:
 - Preparing for Annual Inventory
 - Tips & Tricks for Various Automations
 - How to Manage Turns
 - Use of Outside Inventory Company vs. In-House
 - Perpetual Inventory Systems & more
- Insulin & Diabetic Pen Injections (benefits to high cost, waste handling & safety issues)
- The Affordable Healthcare Act: How It Affects Hospitals & Pharmacies
- State & Federal Programs that Hospitals Can Use
- Recycling & going "green" in the Pharmacy & Hospital
- GPO Conversions
- Drug Recall:
 - FDA's process
 - Hospital's process
- Quality Assurance or Improvement Projects
- DEA Compliance of Controlled Substances (or Drug Diversion)
- Generic Purchasing Practices:
 - Latest drugs to have a generic available
 - Generic conversion process
 - Patent challenges
 - Authorized Generics
 - Generic drug patent opportunities (being more proactive in acquiring medications going off-patent)

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- Quality Assurance or Improvement Projects
- DEA Compliance of Controlled Substances (or Drug Diversion)
- Career Improvement & Growth
- Daily Functions & Helpful Tips for Pharmacy Buyers:
 - Tips on using MS Excel spreadsheets for effective Pharmacy Purchasing
 - Other practical tips for better management of day-to-day duties.
- Team-Building, Staff Relations & Leadership Training:
 - Working with & motivating others
 - Improving morale
 - Dealing with difficult people
 - Improving communication skills
 - Taking on new challenges successfully
 - Building a strong relationship with the Pharmacy Director
 - How Directors can advocate more for their Pharmacy Buyer
 - Teaching pharmacy staff basic buying duties, for overall assistance and backup during vacations
- New Medications on the Horizon (new brand or generic drugs)
- Stress Management & Improving Health/Well-Being:
 - Coping with Work-Related Stress
 - Remaining Calm Under Pressure
 - Guarding Against Burnout & Overload
 - Exercises to do at your Desk (stretches, yoga poses, etc.)
 - Relaxation/Meditation Techniques
 - Improving Physical Health and/or Sleep Habits
- Pharmacy Dept. Newsletters: Including Buyer's Input
- How to Manage or be Better Prepared for Drug Shortages

To inquire about speaking, send us an email, to: Speakers@PharmacyPurchasing.com with your requested topic/s, time length (*see page 1 details for options*), and full contact information including company name and title. If you have a current CV or Resume, please send that as well. Then our NPPA Speaker Committee Team will discuss amongst ourselves and follow up by email to ask you any necessary clarifying questions; before sending our materials for you to review, complete, and return in order to be considered.

Having Pharmacy Buyers presenting to their peers is something we always strive to find and fill in our program, and is a long-standing request from attendees. So consider presenting on a topic that you have experience in and passion about, and know that sharing your knowledge with your colleagues is always a rewarding experience!

