



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
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By
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SB 2247 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO OPIOID ANTAGONISTS

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the Committee:

My name is Carolyn Ma, and I am the Dean for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP). As the designated lead for UH Hilo and on behalf of Interim Chancellor Dr. Marcia Sakai, we fully support the SD1 HD1 version of the bill that will authorize pharmacists to prescribe and dispense an opioid antagonist to patients, family members and caregivers of patients who take opioids.

Pharmacists, regardless of type of practice, have extensive education and professional involvement with opioid use and abuse. A strong knowledge base regarding optimal pain management, including the use of opioids, has been an ongoing portion of our curriculum since the inception of the DKICP in 2007. All U.S. accredited colleges of pharmacy more than adequately prepare student pharmacists in courses related to this area of pharmacology and therapeutic practice.

Table 1 addresses the year of curriculum and course title that, in a recent request by the Hawai'i State Dept. of Health, outlines our curriculum based on six objectives related to opioids. The table further divides the curriculum into didactic and clinical experiential coursework. The DKICP currently provides 19 hours in didactic teaching on the subject area. Dedicated experiential hours will vary upon the practice site, the individual pharmacist preceptor as well as consideration to the specialty area. For instance, an oncology (cancer) or critical care rotation would contain much more exposure to pain management care as opposed to an ambulatory primary care clinic rotation.

This information details our current state of curriculum. In response to the recent change in HAR 461, "pharmacists to dispense an opioid antagonist in accordance with a written collaborative agreement", the DKICP plans to create a pharmacist certificate program for academic year 2018-2019. The course called "Planned Improvements to Pain Management/Opioid Related Education" will address the specifics of naloxone prescribing and dispensing.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and support SB 2247 SD1 HD1.

TABLE 1. Coursework Relative to DOH Objectives

Program Year	PharmD. Curriculum Course Title	Approx hours of instruction	DOH Objectives**					
			1	2	3	4	5	6
DIDACTIC CURRICULUM								
1	Self Care I	2		x				
2	Pharmacy Law and Ethics	2			X			x
3	Integrated Therapeutics III	5	x	X	X	x	x	
3	Complementary Medicine	3		x				
3	Basic & Applied Toxicology	7			x		X	
	Total Didactic Hours	19						
EXPERIENTIAL CURRICULUM								
1	IPPE: Community/Retail Pharmacy	160*		X			x	x
2	IPPE: Hospital	80*	x	X	X	x	x	
4	APPE : Ambulatory	240*						
4	APPE : Community/Retail	240*					x	x
4	APPE: Medicine, Acute Care	240*	x	x	x	X		
4	APPE: Hospital Pharmacy	240*	X	X				
4	APPE: ELECTIVE - Narcotics Enforcement Agency	240*						X
	*Hours include other content. Amount of student exposure to opioid-related issues may vary from rotation and preceptor/faculty							
	** Objectives Per DOH:							
	1. Prescribing guidance for opioid naïve patients who develop acute pain							
	2. Appropriate use and alternatives to opioids for chronic pain							
	3. Identifying and treating opioid dependence							
	4. Appropriate use and alternatives to opioids for operative procedures and post-operative care							
	5. Use of informed consent in opioid prescribing							
	6. Use of prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) database in opioid prescribing							