



Regional Conference Clinical Skills Competition

Patient Counseling

The Student National Pharmaceutical Association Clinical Skills Competition (CSC) Program is an educational opportunity for SNPhA members from different chapters to display their pharmaceutical knowledge and patient assessment skills through case presentations and patient counseling. The focus of the Regional Conference CSC is on patient counseling.

Regional participation does **not** impact the status of members in participating in the National CSC. For example, if a student cannot take part in the regional competition, they will still be eligible to participate at the national competition if they meet all eligibility requirements. Similarly, if a team participates at the regional level, they are not obligated to participate at the national level. Final standings at the Regional Conference will have no impact on team rankings at the National Convention.

The regional competition will be performed in pairs. Each student team will be given a patient's medication profile to evaluate and provide appropriate counseling. First year pharmacy students will be required to register with an upperclassman in their second, third, or fourth year in pharmacy school.

There are a limited number of slots available for teams to participate at the Regional Conference. **Slots will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.** Schools that register first will be provided a time slot to compete. Remaining teams will be placed on a waiting list and notified if a slot becomes available.

COMPONENTS OF THE COMPETITION

All participants will receive their patient's prescription information before the competition start time and will be required to counsel the patient on appropriate information and use of the medications. The patient may display personality characteristics or other barriers to challenge the participants' ability to convey pertinent therapy information.

Reviewing the Case

Students will have five (5) minutes to review a patient's medication profile. Students will be allowed to use provided resources to prepare for the patient counseling session.

Patient Counseling Session

Participants will have five (5) minutes to conduct a patient counseling session on the patient's prescribed medications. This patient-pharmacist interaction will be the only section evaluated by judges.



Resources

At the Regional CSC, SNPhA will have resources available for participants to use. Participants will only be allowed to use resources provided by SNPhA.

Attire

Students will be expected to dress professionally during the competition. White coats are **MANDATORY**. Students will be required to supply their own white coats.

Rules

- Students must meet eligibility requirements
- Chapters are guaranteed entry of one team consisting of two members in the competition upon submission of the Clinical Skills Competition registration form. Students from chapters requesting more than one team may register; however, regional participation is limited based on availability. Additional teams from the same chapter will be wait-listed and accepted upon availability via email notification.
- Students are required to dress professionally and wear their white lab coats
- Students are not to discuss the case with others except their teammates
- Judges' decisions are final and are not subject to appeal

Eligibility

- Participants must be current national SNPhA members
- Participants must be enrolled in a full-time Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program
- **First year pharmacy students are required to partner with a student who is currently in their second, third, or fourth year of pharmacy school**
- Participants must not be licensed to practice pharmacy
- Participants must complete the CSC registration form by the Regional Conference registration deadline
- The competition will be held on the Friday afternoon of the Regional Conference. Teams must be present for their assigned start time or will forfeit their participation. Teams will be assigned a **start time between 2:00 PM and 5:30 PM local time.**

EVALUATION OF TEAMS

Judging

Judges will evaluate and score each team on the interaction and information presented during their patient counseling session according to criteria listed in the following guidelines. Judges will not know the participants' school affiliation.

Patient Interaction

- Communicate the purpose and importance of the counseling session to the patient
- Use critical thinking and problem-solving skills to present medication information to the patient in a logical order
- Display confidence and ability to direct the counseling session
- Manage time effectively
- Collaborate with their team member



Communication Skills

- Display strong verbal and nonverbal communication skills
- Use an interactive approach by assessing patient understanding with open-ended questions
- Use language the patient will be able to understand
- Demonstrate effective counseling techniques

Professional Knowledge

- Provide medication education to the patient in a manner that the patient can understand and use to benefit their therapy
- Convey accurate information concerning the patient's medication therapy, including but not limited to: medication, indication, dosage, form, route, duration, pertinent side effects, precautions, interactions, missed dose procedures, storage recommendations, and specific techniques for self-monitoring
- Discuss any potential therapeutic problems
- Correct any inaccurate information relayed by the patient
- Recognize compliance problems and increase adherence

PLACEMENT PRIZES

SNPhA

Prizes are being finalized and will be announced soon!

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