

# TASK FORCE TO REVIEW PHARMACY TECHNICIAN PRACTICE FINAL REPORT

Presented to the Texas State Board of Pharmacy  
May 6, 2014

## INTRODUCTION

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The Task Force was established by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy to:

- (1) review the current laws and rules relating to pharmacy technicians in Texas;
- (2) review literature and studies regarding the changing roles and duties of pharmacists and how these changes may impact the role of pharmacy technicians; and
- (3) make 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.

The Task Force met two times on January 14, and March 19, 2014. The Task Force respectfully submits the following recommendations to the Texas State Board of Pharmacy.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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1. The Board should continue requiring pharmacy technicians to take and pass one national certification examination.
2. The Board should allow a pharmacy technician trainee to renew their registration once so that their total time as a Technician Trainee will be 4-years rather than the current 2-years.
3. The Board should review the definition of a pharmacy technician to better define what “*non-judgmental*” duties are and seek legislation to amend this definition in the Texas Pharmacy Act.
4. The Board shall establish a training program that the pharmacy technician must complete prior to completing expanded duties. A technician may perform “*expanded duties*” provided the:
  - technician completes Board established on-the-job training;
  - training is documented by the pharmacist-in-charge; and
  - pharmacist on duty allows the technician to perform the expanded duties while that pharmacist is working.
5. The Board should allow training exemptions from required training for expanded duties for technicians in rural areas.

6. The Board should establish a method to grandfather currently registered technicians from the requirement to have completed an American Society of Health-System Pharmacists accredited technician education program after 2020 when Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) will require completion of this program prior to taking the PTCB certification exam.
7. The Board should amend rules or seek legislation if necessary to expand the duties of technicians to include:
  - Expanding Tech-Check-Tech in hospital pharmacies and allowing Tech-Check-Tech in community pharmacies for such duties as:
    - stocking medication carts;
    - checking the prepacking of drugs; and
    - stocking automated dispensing systems.
  - Allowing technicians to:
    - transfer refill prescriptions for dangerous drugs.
    - data enter prescriptions in an area other than the prescription department prior to the opening of the pharmacy).
    - perform a final check on a refilled prescription (Note: DUR by pharmacist will still be required).
8. The task force members support the elimination of the ratio of pharmacists to technicians.

## **TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP**

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### **Chair**

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Jeanne D. Waggener, R.Ph.

### **Members**

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Jeff Abeldt, R.Ph.  
Jon T. Albrecht, R.Ph.  
Don Bowman, R.Ph.  
Jeff Carson, R.Ph.  
Adam Chesler, R.Ph.  
Sandra Clark, Ph.T.R.  
Mark Comfort, R.Ph.  
David Dubose, R.Ph.  
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Linda McMahon, R.Ph.  
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Rebekah Modisette, Ph.T.R.  
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Angela Watson, Ph.T.R.  
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Leonard White, Ph.T.R.  
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### **Board Member Liaison**

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L. Suzan Kedron

## **TSBP Staff**

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