

NEWSLETTER

GULF COAST SOCIETY OF HEALTH-SYSTEM PHARMACISTS



LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION

Dear GCSHP Members,

As I conclude my term as President-Elect of GCSHP, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to our board, directors, and every member who contributed to a successful 2025 year and Spring 2026 season. Together, we delivered a fun casino night, a strong annual conference, and meaningful programming that benefited our pharmacy students, residents, pharmacists, and technician professionals for years to come.

I am especially grateful to the entire board for warmly acclimating me to the organization and its culture, and I will never forget your steady support and guidance during moments of challenge in our annual seminar planning. The success of the 2025 Annual Seminar was truly an example of pure teamwork.

As we move into the 2026 summer and fall calendar year, and in light of a new professional opportunity outside of Houston, I have made the difficult decision to step away from my elected leadership term earlier than planned; however, I remain deeply proud of what we have accomplished together and confident that GCSHP will continue to thrive in advancing excellence in health-system pharmacy.

With Sincere Appreciation,

Prem Oommen, PharmD., MBA, RPh
GCSHP President-Elect 2025-2026



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RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

HOLIDAY SOCIAL



Our Membership Committee helped organize our annual Holiday Social at POST Houston!

This was a great time to connect with members from around Houston over good food and drinks.



NORA'S HOME VOLUNTEER EVENT



Our members volunteered 4 hours of their Sunday morning to help provide services around Nora's Home.

Nora's Home offers transplant patients and their families an affordable place to stay where they can find support and share experiences with others, in the comfort of a home-like environment.



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY DINNER



Our January Industry Dinner was sponsored by Bayer at Killen's Steakhouse. Attendees learned about the role of KERENDIA for patients with heart failure and LVEF > 40%.



MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL

Our membership committee hosted a Top Golf event in Webster to reach members across Houston. This event was a hole-in-one success!



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

DINNER WITH A PHARMACIST

GCSHP partnered with local pharmacy schools to expose pharmacy students to pharmacists in various backgrounds. Thank you to Dr. McKenzie Erwin and Dr. Curtis Petty for sharing your time and insight with our students!



ST. PATRICK'S DAY FUNDRAISER FOR THE PAC



This event raised over \$1400 towards the TSHP PAC and over \$1000 for GCSHP. A special thanks to the Wallace Family for sharing their home to host this event and Curtis Petty for serving as our expert mixologist. We were lucky to have such a great turnout by our GCSHP members!



UPCOMING EVENTS

LOCAL CHAPTER EVENTS

RUN FOR THE ROSE VOLUNTEER EVENT

This race **supports brain cancer research & pediatric initiatives**, recognizes survivors, and remembers loved ones. Volunteers will help support the racers with water and snacks.

APR 12TH @ 7:30 AM

[RSVP HERE](#)

GCSHP SOCIAL AT TSHP

Come join GCSHP at the **TSHP Annual Seminar** for good drinks, food, and company! Find us at the **Moody Gardens Hotel Lobby Bar**. Looking forward to connect with more members.

APR 25TH @ 8:00 PM

[RSVP HERE](#)

MATCH DAY SOCIAL

Join us at **Heights Bier Garten** to **celebrate Match Day!** GCSHP congratulates all those who went through the match and look forward to celebrating with you!

APR 29TH @ 6:30 PM

[RSVP HERE](#)

INDUSTRY DINNER

Join us at **Perry's Steakhouse** for an **educational dinner** about KCENTRA® Prothrombin Complex Concentrate (Human) sponsored by CSL Behring

APR 30TH @ 6:30 PM

[RSVP HERE](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

LOCAL CHAPTER EVENTS

RESIDENCY GRADUATION

Save the date for our **Residency Graduation** to celebrate the accomplishments of the **2026 graduating residents** in the Houston and Greater Houston area!

JUN 9TH 5:30 - 8 PM

MORE DETAILS TO COME

ANNUAL GAME NIGHT

GCSHP **Annual Game Night** hosted at **Saint Arnold's Brewery!** Proceeds from the event will be donated to a charitable organization, Reach Out and Read.

JUL 23RD @ 6:30 PM

[RSVP HERE](#)

GCSHP 4TH ANNUAL SEMINAR

Save the date for **GCSHP's 4th Annual Seminar**. Join pharmacy professionals from across the greater Houston area for a full day of continuing education, networking, and professional development.

NOV 7TH

MORE DETAILS TO COME

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EVENTS CALENDAR



Stay in the loop with all the upcoming events. Private events are for the GCSHP board only.

[SUBSCRIBE HERE](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Each month you can tune in virtually to an ACPE-accredited CE program from a local pharmacy resident provided without charge as part of your membership benefits!

Mark your calendars for the final Grand Rounds dates for the 2026 residency class! Invitations will be sent via email at a later date.

RESIDENT GRAND ROUNDS

April 15th

Ana María Sovaila, PharmD
Opioid Prescribing in Children
HCA Kingwood

May 20th

Benson Kuira, PharmD
Management of OB Hemorrhage
HCA Clearlake

June 10th

Samantha Richardson, PharmD
Steroids in Septic Shock
HCA Clear Lake

2026 - 2027 GCSHP OFFICER BALLOT

We are excited to announce the upcoming elections for GCSHP for the 2026-2027 term. This is a fantastic opportunity for members to get involved and contribute to the growth and success of our organization.

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Voting will take place from **April 1-13**. All active members are eligible to vote. Ballots may **only be submitted by active members**.

Results of the elections will be announced in mid-April.

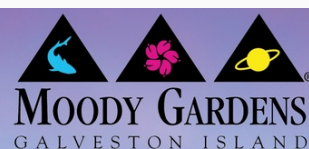
We look forward to your participation in this important process. Your involvement is crucial to the continued success and advancement of our society.



GET INVOLVED WITH TSHP



SAVE THE DATE
April 24-26, 2026



Join your friends and colleagues as we meet to share the best of Texas pharmacy. Celebrate each other's achievements at our awards ceremony and connect with friends old and new. There's so much to explore during our event April 24th-26th, 2026.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Help TSHP reach their \$10,000 fundraising goal! Purchase tickets to support the R&E Foundation activities. The raffle will occur during the TSHP 2026 Annual Seminar, during exhibit hours.

[PURCHASE RAFFLE
TICKETS HERE](#)

PUBLISH YOUR WORK WITH TSHP

TSHP has several outlets for publication including TJHP, Section Newsletters, TSHP bulletin, and Poster Competition

TJHP is a member benefit and is published digitally two to three times per year.

[READ CURRENT ISSUE](#)

TSHP ANNUAL SEMINAR VOLUNTEERS

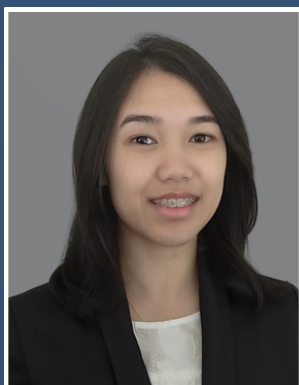
TSHP is looking for **volunteers for moderators** during **education sessions** at TSHP 2026 Annual Seminar.

Slots are open throughout the day on Friday and Saturday, as well as Sunday Morning. This is a great opportunity for student members!

[VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

Optimizing DOAC Prescribing Through EHR-Based Clinical Decision Support

WRITTEN BY:



BARBARA MAE ABAD
THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
PHARM D CANDIDATE 2026

.....

SPECIAL THANKS TO
ASHLEY FERRIS,
PHARM D, BCPS
FOR PRECEPTING THIS
REVIEW

Background: Inappropriate prescribing of direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) remains a persistent issue in ambulatory care and is associated with increased risks of both bleeding and thrombotic events. Importantly, many of these prescribing errors arise not at the time of initial prescription, but later during therapy due to evolving patient-specific factors such as renal function, age, weight, and drug–drug interactions.

Clinical pharmacists are well-positioned to identify and correct these issues given their expertise in anticoagulation management. However, they are not consistently integrated into routine prescribing workflows. At the same time, electronic health record (EHR)-based clinical decision support tools have emerged as a strategy to improve medication safety, particularly when designed to minimize workflow disruption.

This study by Barnes and colleagues evaluated whether asynchronous, non-interruptive EHR notifications, designed to function more like inbox messages rather than interruptive alerts, would be more effective when directed to prescribers or to clinical pharmacists. The primary objective was to determine which approach resulted in higher rates of correction of inappropriate DOAC prescribing in the ambulatory setting.

Methods: This was a pragmatic, single-center, cluster-randomized implementation trial conducted at the prescriber level. Prescribers were randomized to either receive EHR notifications directly or have those notifications routed to a clinical pharmacist. The alerts were asynchronous and non-interruptive, allowing clinicians to address them within their workflow rather than requiring immediate action.

The study included adult patients (≥ 18 years) with ambulatory DOAC prescriptions that were identified as inappropriate due to incorrect dosing or clinically significant drug–drug interactions. To specifically evaluate chronic management, only errors identified more than seven days after the initial prescription were included. Patients were excluded if prescriptions originated from inpatient or acute care settings, involved multiple anticoagulants, or included medications that would confound interpretation due to strong interaction profiles.

The primary outcome was the proportion of notifications that resulted in any prescription change within 7 days. Secondary outcomes included prescription changes at 14 and 30 days, as well as implementation outcomes assessed using the RE-AIM framework (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation, and Maintenance). Resource utilization was also evaluated, specifically the time pharmacists spent managing alerts.

CLINICAL CORNER

Results: A total of 388 notifications were analyzed, involving 183 prescribers and 320 patients. The prescriber population was primarily composed of primary care clinicians, most of whom were physicians, and generally represented higher baseline DOAC prescribing volume compared to non-participating prescribers. The patient population reflected a high-risk group, with a mean age of 83 years and high rates of renal impairment and polypharmacy. Apixaban was the most prescribed DOAC, followed by rivaroxaban. Baseline characteristics were well balanced between the prescriber-directed and pharmacist-directed alert groups.

Overall, 23.2% of notifications resulted in a prescription change within seven days. There was no statistically significant difference between groups, with 26% of prescriber-directed alerts and 21% of pharmacist-directed alerts leading to a change ($p = 0.36$) as shown in Table 1. When the follow-up period was extended, the proportion of prescription changes increased to 26.8% at 14 days and 30.2% at 30 days.

Additional analyses demonstrated that 38.3% of prescribers made at least one prescribing change during the study period. Importantly, nearly all changes (97.8%) were clinically appropriate, indicating high fidelity to alert recommendations. Pharmacists spent an average of 7.9 minutes per notification, supporting the feasibility of this intervention from a resource standpoint.

Table 1.

Outcome Measure	Prescriber	Pharmacist	Difference	p-value
Average marginal effect	0.26 (0.19–0.33)	0.21 (0.15–0.27)	-0.04 (-0.14 to 0.05)	0.36

Conclusion: This study demonstrates that asynchronous, non-interruptive EHR notifications can modestly improve the correction of inappropriate DOAC prescribing in ambulatory care, with approximately one in four alerts resulting in a prescribing change. However, directing alerts to prescribers versus pharmacists did not significantly impact outcomes.

These findings suggest that the effectiveness of EHR-based clinical decision support is driven less by the recipient of the alert and more by the design, timing, and clinical relevance of the alert itself. The relatively low rate of prescribing changes may reflect strong baseline anticoagulation stewardship as well as the inherent complexity of long-term DOAC management, where clinical judgment often plays a role. Moving forward, efforts to improve medication safety through EHR systems should prioritize more targeted and actionable alerts to enhance clinical impact while minimizing alert fatigue.

REFERENCES:

1. Barnes GD, Choi SY, Lanham MS, et al. Implementing prescriber-pharmacist collaboration to improve evidence-based medication prescribing using asynchronous, non-interruptive electronic health record notifications. *Implement Sci*. Published online December 15, 2025. doi:10.1186/s13012-025-01478-9
2. Zhang XL, Zhang XW, Wang TY, et al. Off-Label Under- and Overdosing of Direct Oral Anticoagulants in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation: A Meta-Analysis. *Circ Cardiovasc Qual Outcomes*. 2021;14(12):e007971. doi:10.1161/CIRCOUTCOMES.121.007971

STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATES

UHCOP SSHP Spring Semester Event Highlights

WRITTEN BY JEREMY NINAN, PHARMD CANDIDATE

This spring, UH SSHP hosted a wide range of events focused on professional development, patient-centered care, and community engagement. During Pharmacy Advancement Initiative (PAI) Week, members led several impactful initiatives highlighting key areas of pharmacy practice. A patient-centered care tabling event invited students to create handwritten cards for patients at Texas Children's Hospital, emphasizing empathy in healthcare. Another event recognized the vital contributions of pharmacy technicians, where attendees created personalized thank-you cards that were later delivered to local community and inpatient pharmacies alongside small appreciation gifts.



To promote clinical knowledge, our chapter organized interactive educational activities such as an Antibiotic Awareness and Medication Safety Jeopardy game and a “Match the Bug to the Drug” challenge, both reinforcing antimicrobial stewardship concepts. A medication safety tabling event further engaged students through scenario-based questions focused on identifying and preventing medication errors. In addition, a social media initiative highlighted the future of telepharmacy, featuring an infographic on its role in Texas, practice models, and legislative barriers. Another post emphasized how pharmacists across specialties contribute to medication safety and patient care.



STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATES

UHCOP SSHP Spring Semester Event Highlights

UH SSHP also prioritized professional development through several career-focused programs. The P1 Internship Panel connected first-year students with current P2 and P3 interns from multiple health systems, offering insight into application strategies, expectations, and professional growth. Two Residency Bootcamp sessions provided comprehensive guidance on residency training. The first session featured Dr. Oscar Corona (Texas Children's Hospital), who discussed the purpose, structure, and benefits of residency training, and Dr. Whitney Dike (Harris Health), who led an interactive workshop on public speaking and presentation skills. The second session, titled "Applying Smarter, Not Harder: Residency Prep 101," featured Dr. McKenzie Erwin (MD Anderson Cancer Center) and Dr. Anna Claire Peel (Houston Methodist Hospital), who provided practical strategies on CV development, letter of intent writing, networking, and evaluating residency programs.



General body meetings further supported student engagement and leadership development. The first meeting featured Dr. Tyler England, who presented on leadership, advocacy, and involvement in the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP). Smaller, personalized networking opportunities were also offered, including a Dinner with a Pharmacist, where students connected with Dr. McKenzie Erwin from MD Anderson Cancer Center to discuss residency preparation and career advice.



Beyond professional and educational programming, UH SSHP remained committed to service and community involvement. Members volunteered at the Houston Food Bank, assisting in sorting and distributing food to individuals in need. Fundraising efforts, including the SSHP merchandise sale, also supported the organization's initiatives and sustainability.

Overall, UH SSHP's spring semester programming successfully fostered clinical knowledge, professional development, leadership, and service, while strengthening connections between student pharmacists and the broader healthcare community.

STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATES

TSU COP SSHP Spring Semester Event Highlights

WRITTEN BY FANESSE MUYAH, PHARMD CANDIDATE

The TSU College of Pharmacy, in collaboration with SSHP, ASCP, and the Native Healthcare Center, organized a two-day health and wellness outreach event focused on improving care access and health literacy within Native American communities. The event emphasized culturally tailored engagement, recognizing historical disparities and the need for trust-building in clinical care settings. The initiative aimed to reduce barriers to care and enhance patient engagement among Native American individuals by focusing on culturally sensitive communication. Volunteers reported improved patient willingness to discuss medication concerns, chronic illness management, and preventive care uptake.

Student pharmacists and faculty volunteers provided a range of healthcare services, including:

1. Medication & Chronic Disease Support

- Polypharmacy screening
- Safe medication use education
- Medication adherence counseling
- Counseling on chronic risk factors (hypertension, diabetes, and lipids)

2. Preventive Health Education

- Patient assessment of health risks
- Awareness of vaccine-preventable diseases
- Lifestyle modification guidance

3. Vaccination Services

- Influenza, HPV, and other age-appropriate immunizations

4. Screenings & Results Review

- Glucose, lipid, and cholesterol assessments



STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATES

TAMU COP SSHP Spring Semester Event Highlights

WRITTEN BY SAVANNA STEVENS, PHARMD CANDIDATE

TAMU SSHP had an exciting and productive winter and spring filled with professional development, community outreach, research accomplishments, and leadership opportunities. Throughout the semester, our committees worked hard to create meaningful events that supported student pharmacists both academically and professionally. These efforts helped strengthen member involvement while also encouraging personal growth, career exploration, and a continued commitment to service.

Several of our SSHP committees hosted meetings designed to address important topics relevant to student success and future pharmacy careers. The academic committee organized a meeting centered on managing academic stress and burnout, providing students with helpful strategies for maintaining wellness and balance throughout the demands of pharmacy school. In addition, the oncology committee welcomed Dr. Jooyoung Park to speak about careers in oncology pharmacy and to share insight into the unique responsibilities, challenges, and rewards that come with working in this specialized area of practice. These events gave members the opportunity to learn from experienced professionals while also building a stronger sense of connection within the organization.

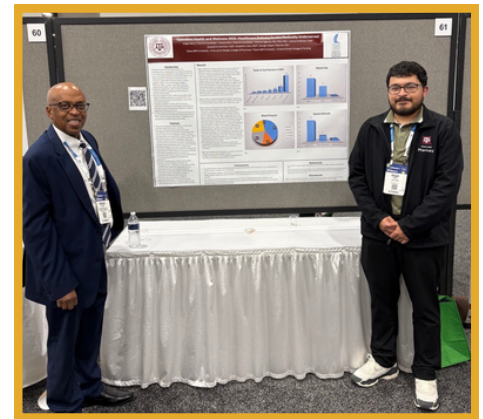
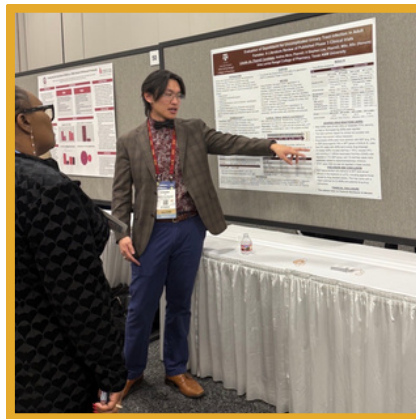
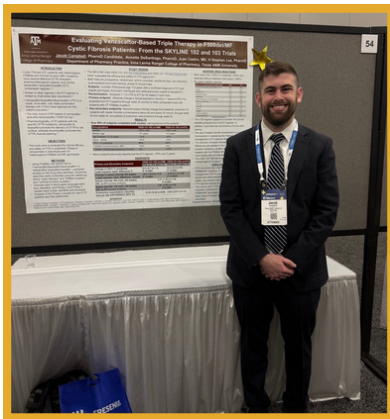
This semester also included opportunities for outreach and engagement beyond campus. TAMU SSHP hosted a booth at the Ties and Tennis Shoes Annual Memorial Fun Run in Kingsville, TX, where children were able to participate in activities and interact with current pharmacy students. Events like this allow our members to represent the profession in a positive way while helping build stronger relationships with the communities we serve. Community outreach remains an important part of our mission, and we are proud to take part in efforts that promote awareness, education, and service.



STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATES

TAMU COP SSHP Spring Semester Event Highlights

Our members have also continued to excel in research and postgraduate achievement. Nineteen SSHP members presented research posters at ASHP's Midyear Clinical Meeting, showcasing the hard work and dedication of our student pharmacists on a national stage. Texas A&M is also proud to celebrate the success of our P4s and alumni in the residency match process, with 23 individuals matching for PGY1 and 10 individuals matching for PGY2.



In addition to celebrating these achievements, our chapter has also been preparing for the future. This past month, we held elections for the 2026-2027 executive committee and are excited to welcome a new group of student leaders who will continue advancing TAMU's SSHP chapter. Their leadership will help guide the organization as we continue to expand opportunities for member involvement, professional growth, and service.

Looking ahead, we are excited for members to attend and present their research at the TSHP meeting in April. We are grateful for the enthusiasm and dedication our members have shown throughout the semester, and we look forward to continuing to build on that momentum.

MEET THE OFFICERS

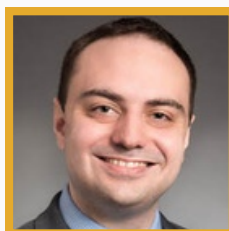
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Niaz Deyhim, PharmD, MS, BCPS

Pharmacy Administrative Specialist at
Houston Methodist Hospital



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MS, BCPS**

System 340B Manager at Memorial Hermann
Health-System



PRESIDENT-ELECT

Prem Oomen, PharmD, MBA, RPh

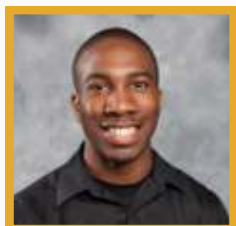
Director of Pharmacy at Texas Children's
Hospital Houston Medical Center
TSHP Secretary 2024 - 2026



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Ashley Crouch, PharmD, BCPS

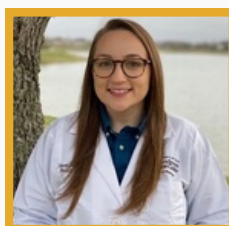
Internal Medicine Clinical Pharmacy
Specialist at The University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center



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**Chibuokem Amuneke-Nze,
PharmD, MBA**

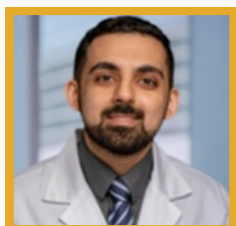
Inpatient Pharmacy Assistant Manager at The
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



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MBA, BCOP**

Stem Cell Transplant and Cellular Therapy
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at The
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Region Manager of Pharmacy Reimbursement
for the Mountain Region of CommonSpirit Health

MEET THE OFFICERS

2025-2026 MEMBERS AT LARGE



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MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR

Faith Rutherford, PharmD, BCPS
Lead Free Standing Emergency Department Clinical Pharmacist at HCA Houston Healthcare Kingwood



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University of Houston College of Pharmacy



Savanna Stevens
Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy



Fanesse Muiyah
Texas Southern University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences



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