Welcome to a monthly news roundup from the California State Board of Pharmacy. More information about news reported here is on the Board’s website, www.pharmacy.ca.gov.

Recent news:

- Jessica Crowley of Los Angeles and Renee Armendariz Barker, Pharm.D., have been appointed to the Board by Governor Gavin Newsom. Crowley has been a staff pharmacist for Pavilions Pharmacy since 2020 and previously held several positions at CVS Pharmacy. Dr. Armendariz Barker has been sterile products manager at the Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford since 1998.

- The California Pharmacy Law Update 2022 Edition is now available for viewing on the Board’s website. Click the “Applicants” tab at the top of the homepage, then go to “Important Information for Licensees” and find Law and Ethics Webinars.

- A regulation approved last year regarding automatic prescription refill programs took effect July 1, 2022. Information about the regulation – Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1717.5 – is posted under Approved Regulations.

- The Legislation and Regulation Committee and Licensing Committee met July 18, followed by the Enforcement and Compounding Committee and Communication and Public Education Committee on July 19. Click on links for each committee to find meeting agendas, materials, and webcast recordings.

- The Board met July 27-28, 2022. Links to the meeting agenda, materials, action items, and webcast recordings are posted under Board Meetings.

- The director of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) issued the following waiver: DCA Waiver DCA-22-217 Order Waiving Restrictions on Pharmacists Independently Initiating and Furnishing Paxlovid to Individual Patients – Amended. Additional pharmacy law waivers related to COVID-19 are posted under COVID 19 Information.

- Pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsome’s declaration of emergency related to monkeypox, the Board has issued the following waiver: Prescriber Dispensing of Tecovirimat (TPOXX or ST-246) Oral Antiviral Medication to Emergency Room Patient (BPC sections 4068(a)(1), 4068(a)(5), 4068(a)(6), 4076.5 and 4427.2(a)).

Coming up:

- The Standard of Care Committee is set to meet August 25. The meeting agenda and materials will be posted on the committee’s webpage.

- The next CPJE will be administered August 26. Information about the exam is available under Pharmacist Examination and Licensure.
A final word:

- The Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) is partnering with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and the Board of Pharmacy to collect important health workforce data. HCAI, in partnership with the Board of Pharmacy and DCA, has developed a workforce survey for you to complete during your electronic licensure renewal process. The workforce survey will be available beginning July 1, 2022. Answers to frequently asked questions are available under License Renewal Online.

###