

# PHARMACY Purchasing & Products

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## From the Publisher

# Ringling in the New Year With Renewed Energy

Like many of you, we spent the first week of December in Las Vegas at the 2007 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting, taking full advantage of the variety of educational sessions and well-populated exhibit floor the society offered this year. And we hope that – like us – you've returned from the show even more energized and motivated to improve the practice of hospital pharmacy.



We found that the educational sessions at this year's meeting were of particular relevance to the kind of content we publish each month in *PP&P* – with presentations on topics ranging from smart pump technology to antimicrobial stewardship, and from USP <797> to medication distribution systems. In fact, we were quite pleased that Michelle Mandrack of ISMP presented data from *PP&P*'s "State of Pharmacy Automation" survey in her discussion of "Current Issues with Medication Distribution Systems in Automated Environments" on the morning of Tuesday, December 4th.

There were also many familiar faces at the podium: A number of *PP&P* authors and editorial advisors, including Jim Besier, Burnis Breland, Lorrie Burns, Bill Churchill, Janice Dunsavage, Barbara Giacomelli, Sara Griesbach, Daniel Hays, Eric Kastango, Patti Kienle, Joanne Kowiatek, Cheryl Krempa, Fred Massoomi, Michael McCarrell, Michael Gregory, Natasha Nicol, Amy Pick, Marc Scheetz, Jerry Siegel, Mark Siska, and Jim Wagner, gave presentations, moderated sessions, and/or displayed posters at the 2007 ASHP Midyear.

In addition, we took note of the number of new vendors exhibiting at the show, as well as the breadth of product classes they represented – from clinical intervention documentation systems to medication carts, and from telepharmacy services to medication order management systems. And of course, even familiar vendors announced some exciting product launches. All in all, spirits were high in the meeting rooms and on the exhibit floor, and even after leaving Las Vegas, we at *PP&P* find that energy to be infectious as we head into 2008.

This year promises to be another exciting one for our publication, with new supplements and the third installment of the "State of Pharmacy Automation" survey in the works. Don't miss out on any of our content in 2008; renew your subscription to *PP&P* today at [www.pppmag.com/subscribe](http://www.pppmag.com/subscribe) or use the free reader service card bound in this issue. However you choose to do it, you won't regret continuing your support of our magazine, as we are committed to continually publishing the information you need to further improve the practice of hospital pharmacy.

All the best,

R. Mitchell Halvorsen  
Publisher

► R. Mitchell Halvorsen congratulates John Nguyen, PharmD, director of pharmacy services for O'Connor Hospital and winner of the 2007 "State of Pharmacy Automation" drawing at *PP&P*'s booth at the ASHP Midyear. John was awarded a Canon Powershot SD1000 Digital ELPH.



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