

# The Syringe



- Delivering your monthly dose of news and events for



## Tools of the Profession

If a patient comes to you at your internship and asks, “Can anyone look at my throat?,” would you have the simple tool to complete the task? Which begs the question, what should we as professionals keep at arms length in our lab coats, at our pharmacy, or within our place of work? Upon completing the Patient Assessment course in the UTCOP curriculum, students should be qualified to offer many services in the way of advice and referrals under the guidance of a practicing pharmacist. Do patients know we (both students and pharmacists) can be helpful in these aspects? Would it surprise you, as a student, to see an active pharmacist with an otoscope, a reflex hammer, or even a stethoscope?



When counseling about proper inhaler technique, it makes perfect sense to have an appropriate placebo on hand. When discussing a disease state, wouldn't anatomical pictures be helpful? Take it further...peak flow meters and inhalers with asthma patients...hypertension and tools for blood pressure checks... diabetes and monofilaments... maybe even go as far as to make a kit or “toolbox” of items that would help improve patient understanding and pharmaceutical

care. Be prepared to use your cognitive services and counseling skills, carrying the proper tools with you. If we are to change the image of pharmacy to a more interactive, patient-oriented profession; maybe we should let patients become more accustomed to seeing us with the tools this requires.

### Example Pharmacist Toolbox/ Kit

- Otoscope with disposable specula
- Ophthalmoscope
- Stethoscope
- Reflex hammer
- Blood pressure cuff
- Blood Glucose Monitor and Supplies
- Pocket pen light
- Peak flow meter & disposable adapters
- Inhalers, placebo models
- Anatomical models or pictures
- Gloves
- References, mobile software
- Monofilament Test
- And much more....

## UT-Knoxville Pre-pharmacy Chapter Celebrates 5 years

Five years ago, Misty Gray-Winnett (now alumnus of UTCOP) met with a group of undergraduate students who had one thing in common, an interest in pharmacy as a career. In a crammed section of Starbucks on Cumberland Ave, the first members of UTK's Pre-Pharmacy Organization signed up and paid dues. Since then, the group has done its part (under the guidance of our APhA-ASP chapter) in promoting pharmacy as a viable career option, and at the same time instilling a healthy respect for the profession while getting future students thinking about APhA-ASP early and UTCOP as a top choice when applying for professional school. Monthly meetings consist of pharmacy overviews, influen-

tial speakers, PCAT seminars, and numerous networking opportunities (including a current Facebook Group). Prior to the Pre-pharmacy group, Alpha Epsilon Delta (a pre-professional fraternity) was the only option pre-pharmacy students had at UTK, and they usually offered a pharmacy specific meeting only once a year. Presently under the leadership of Amber McCaleb and Molly Hunt (Co-chairs of the Pre-Pharmacy MAL position), the group boasts an impressive roster of 81 total members. Congratulations to our undergraduate chapter on a job well done, and thank you to all the students and faculty that have contributed over the last five years!

## Promoting Pharmacy in Knoxville and Memphis

Can you spot our new bus advertisements promoting pharmacy? Keep an eye out and look for the king-size displays in both Knoxville and Memphis.

**Know your MEDICINE,  
Know your PHARMACIST!**



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### Happenings

MEMPHIS  
and KNOXVILLE

#### February 25th

TSSP Annual Meeting  
Nashville, TN

#### February 26th

TSHP Midyear Seminar  
Nashville, TN

#### February 27-28th

TPA Midyear Meeting  
Nashville, TN

#### March 9-12th

APhA Annual Meeting,  
New Orleans



#### April 16th

Chapter Meeting  
12pm CST, 1pm EST

### Service Events

Both campuses, please watch your email and visit the website often to stay abreast of all we are offering!

Visit [www.utasp.org](http://www.utasp.org) for specific times, locations, and updates