

February 23, 2021

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY for GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE via Email: gltestimony@cga.ct.gov
RAISED BILL No. 895 - AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO VARIOUS PHARMACY STATUTES.
Public Hearing on February 25, 2021**

Chairmen D'Agostino and Maroney, Ranking Members Witkos and Rutigliano, and Distinguished Members of the General Law Committee:

The UConn School of Pharmacy, the only public pharmacy school in Connecticut, was founded in 1925. It is imperative that our statutes keep pace with clinical practice to attract the highest quality faculty members, as well as retain our best and brightest students in Connecticut's workforce upon graduation. We are submitting written testimony in **strong support of RB 895 - An Act Concerning Changes to Various Pharmacy Statutes.**

Collaborative Drug Therapy Management (CDTM) Agreements

It is important to note that the proposed bill does not change pharmacist scope of practice. Rather, it eliminates an outdated administrative burden for pharmacists, physicians, and APRNs engaging in the use of CDTM agreements that were created prior to the availability of shared electronic medical records (EMRs). It also provides clarification that a written protocol within a CDTM agreement may include evidence-based, therapy guideline-directed management.

Maintaining Pace with Technology

The proposed bill helps to maintain pace with technology by modifying the requirement that a pharmacist shall report the patient's drug therapy at least every 30 days to the referring physician or APRN. Today, pharmacists with CDTM agreements document care plans and any medication changes directly in patients' EMRs. The patient's physician or APRN has immediate access to the patient's drug therapy in the EMR. Therefore, the 30-day reporting requirement is obsolete and impractical.

Improving Patient Care Outcomes and Safety

Pharmacists are highly trained medication experts who engage in CDTM utilization to promote team-based patient care that improves medication-related patient outcomes and safety.

For these reasons, we request that you support this bill.

Sincerely,



Philip M. Hritcko, PharmD
Dean and Clinical Professor



Marie A. Smith, PharmD
Asst. Dean, Policy Partnerships and Palmer Professor