

Bio

Michael Postelnick, RPH BCPS AQ Infectious Diseases is currently Senior Infectious Diseases Pharmacist and Clinical Manager at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He received his pharmacy degree from the University of Illinois College of Pharmacy in 1976, subsequently completing a Pharmacy Practice/Pharmacology residency at Rush Medical Center in 1981. He has practiced clinically in both community hospitals and academic medical centers. As an infectious diseases pharmacist at Northwestern Memorial in 1987 before stewardship guidelines existed, Mike led efforts of prospective audit and feedback, empiric antimicrobial use guidelines, antibiotic order forms and dose optimization. After establishing in-patient ID services, in 1996, Mike established a full-time pharmacist practice in the NMH HIV clinic. He received the SIDP Clinician of the Year award in 2008. He has also provided guidance in Northwestern's affiliation with multiple Colleges of Pharmacy which has led to the expansion of the ID program to include 5 co-funded faculty, a PGY2 resident and 2 research fellows.

Educationally, Mike has precepted over 300 students, 67 PGY1 residents, and 10 PGY 2 residents. He has appointments at 6 schools of pharmacy. Mike received the SIDP PGY2 HIV-focused residency grant in 2005 and 2007. Mike has served on the Publication, Awards and Internet Committees of SIDP and currently chairs the Antimicrobial Stewardship Certificate Committee. In addition to clinical and education efforts, Mike has authored over 50 peer-reviewed papers.

Candidate Statement

I have been fortunate to practice as an infectious diseases pharmacist for now close to 30 years. During that time I have seen our role grow and evolve to where we are vital members of multidisciplinary teams dealing with the compelling issue of a potential post-antibiotic era. Infectious Diseases Pharmacists in many cases have been the driving forces behind some of the most successful Antimicrobial Stewardship programs in the nation. There is a great need for Antimicrobial Stewardship to expand beyond its roots in academic medical centers so that in every setting the core principles of prudent antimicrobial use are practiced. To do so requires trained pharmacists to carry forward this mission. That is why I feel strongly that the education and training goal as articulated in the SIDP Strategic Plan is a key organizational goal. SIDP has always strongly supported PGY2 residency training, and the SIDP Antimicrobial Stewardship Certificate Program provides pharmacists who have not had the opportunity to undertake advanced training to develop important skills to help advance the stewardship mission. I am proud to have worked with the dedicated members of the Certificate Program Committee as we revise and update the content of what has been a very robust and successful program. This program also provides an important revenue stream to the organization to drive forward its mission. I feel as an organization our commitment to keep this program timely, relevant and of high quality must remain strong to help fill in the large gap between the need for and actual number of infectious diseases trained pharmacists to conduct stewardship.

Members are the lifeblood of SIDP. We need to continue to strive to provide services that are valuable to our diverse membership. The organization has done a good job of growing relationships with other professional organizations. Members have been engaged in various public policy efforts and have been solicited to participate in a number of regulatory and public policy panels. We need to continue and to expand those efforts so that SIDP is seen as THE voice of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists.

Another important goal of SIDP has been to support investigator-initiated research. In this time of diminished research funding, SIDP should remain committed to this goal as well as work to provide research training and facilitate collaboration among members. HIV therapeutics is an important practice area for a number of SIDP members. I, firsthand, have seen the importance of pharmacist involvement in the care of these patients who often undertake pharmacologically complex treatment regimens. As an organization, SIDP must continue to support our members who practice in this area.

SIDP has been a source of support and encouragement throughout my practice career. I have been fortunate to benefit from the hard work and strong leadership of those who have been instrumental to the growth and development of the organization. I am committed to strive to ensure that when issues relating to Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Practice are being discussed, SIDP is at the table strongly representing the views of its members. It would be an honor for me to serve the society and its membership.