

NEWS RELEASE



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CONTACT: Ken Baker, Executive Director
PCAB
(515) 341-1250; kenbaker@pcab.info
The Apothecary Shops:
Julie Mystrom, Marketing Director
(480) 250-1454,
jmystrom@theapothecaryshop.com

Local Pharmacy is First in Region to Earn Top Quality & Safety Endorsement *The Apothecary Shops earns new accreditation status, high marks on quality and safety*

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – One local pharmacy is making it easier for doctors and patients to choose a compounding pharmacy they know meets the highest quality and safety standards in its profession. The Apothecary Shops is the first pharmacy in Arizona to earn the Pharmacy Compounding Accreditation Board's (PCAB) Seal of Accreditation – a new system of standards created by some of the leading organizations in pharmacy.

Compounding medications is an integral part of the practice of pharmacy; an estimated 30 to 40 million prescriptions are compounded each year. Yet many people may not even be aware of its role. Compounded medications are prescriptions written by physicians, veterinarians and other legally authorized prescribers and prepared for an individual patient by a specially trained pharmacist. Examples of compounded prescriptions are:

- When a child needs a smaller dose of a medicine that is only commercially manufactured in adult-size doses.
- When a person cannot tolerate the inactive ingredients (such as gluten or sugar) in manufactured medicines.
- When a doctor believes a medicine is needed for his or her patient, but a manufacturer has discontinued the medicine for economic reasons.

Many pharmacies practice a small degree of compounding, while others specialize in the centuries-old practice.

“Our new PCAB Accreditation status and our designation as a PCAB Accredited™ compounding pharmacy lets the public know that The Apothecary Shops ranks among the best for quality and safety,” said Dr. John D. Musil, Pharm.D., FACA, Owner and CEO of The Apothecary Shops. “The PCAB Seal of Accreditation shows our dedication to protecting our patients by practicing safe, high-quality compounding.”

With the high volume of prescriptions that are compounded each year, there has been a need for

an enhanced, profession-wide system of standards by which each compounding pharmacy can test its quality processes. While compounding pharmacy is regulated by the state, PCAB Accreditation is an even more comprehensive way to ensure a compounding pharmacy is meeting the highest quality and safety standards.

To earn PCAB Accreditation, The Apothecary Shops had to complete an extensive application, document its written policies and provide an analysis of its quality procedures that was reviewed by the PCAB and some of the leading figures in the field of compounding. Next, the pharmacy opened its doors for an extensive on-site inspection led by compounding experts. Only when these stringent evaluations were completed did the PCAB officially grant The Apothecary Shops the PCAB Seal of Accreditation and the right to use the designation “PCAB Accredited™ compounding pharmacy.”

“We are honored by this new accreditation. It confirms our commitment to providing safe, personalized solutions that meet the medical needs of our patients – and the needs of the healthcare providers in our community who rely on us for these specialized medicines,” said Musil. “We believe this will further strengthen the bond of trust between our pharmacy and the community.”

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About The Apothecary Shops

Since our formation in 1996, we have been a leader in preparing customized medications to meet the specific needs of patients and practitioners. The pharmacists and certified technical staff at all 11 locations are on the cutting edge of the pharmaceutical industry. The company is a teaching site for pharmacy students from around the United States and is affiliated with the University of Arizona and Midwestern University Schools of Pharmacy.

About the Pharmacy Compounding Accreditation Board (PCAB)

The PCAB is a not-for-profit corporation formed by eight national pharmacy organizations that recognized the need for a national standards organization for compounding pharmacy. Together, these leading organizations developed the policies and standards for the practice of compounding pharmacy, as well as the PCAB Accreditation criteria and processes.

For more information on PCAB Accreditation, visit the PCAB Web site at www.pcab.org.

Editors Note: Pictures attached for your use



Pharmacist working in Apothecary Shops Laboratory



Apothecary Shops Pharmacist compounding medications