NHAND Annual Conference, November 1 – 2, 2013

Pharmaceutical Perspectives: Integrative Partners in Health

ABSTRACT

Presented by: Alan E. Butcher, B.Pharm., Ph.D., MRPharmS.

DIETARY SUPPLEMENT QUALITY, WILL YOU RECOGNIZE IT WHEN YOU SEE IT AND HOW IT IS DIFFERENT FROM PHARMACEUTICALS.

For dietary supplements sold in the practitioner channel our customers are very familiar with statements from manufacturers that their products are of the “highest quality”, are of “pharmaceutical grade” or use the “purest ingredients” and many more. What do these statements mean to the manufacturer making them, to the practitioner buying their product and the patient who uses them under the practitioner’s direction with an expectation of a positive outcome?

The lecture is an introduction to how and why pharmaceuticals and dietary supplements in the US are different, with a focus on how those differences can affect quality and the practitioner or pharmacist’s perception of that quality. The lecture will also cover why other jurisdictions view US dietary supplements as pharmaceuticals of “low regulatory risk”.

Using appropriate learnings from pharmaceutical manufacturing, as well as an understanding of how FDA Current Good Manufacturing Practices ensure basic standards for dietary supplements, Dr. Butcher will explain how a manufacturer can meet minimal requirements or take their products to a higher standard. Examples of problems associated with the quality of dietary supplements and the state of control under which they are manufactured, and the potential negative outcome for patients, will also be discussed.

Dr. Butcher will explain the questions a practitioner can ask a manufacturer to learn about their state of control and their understanding of quality, so that practitioners can make informed choices in the best interest of their patients, clients and customers.

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MRPharmS. (Member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain).

A presentation of 60 minutes would be appropriate with approximately 60 slides, of which at least 20 will have pharmaceutical content.

The target audience would be practitioners and pharmacists.

The objective is to help those prescribing, supplying, or recommending dietary supplement to make informed decisions on product quality and the appropriateness of using products that meet quality standards that ensure effective patient outcomes.