

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

FOUNDATION

A History: The ACP Foundation's
Medication Labeling Project

Fifth Annual National Health Communication Conference

*Moving Toward Real Solutions: Advances to Address Low
Health Literacy*

November 29, 2006

ACP Foundation Medication Labeling Project

A History

- Idea discussed by Patient Literacy Advisory Board in 2003
- At the Third Annual National Health Communication Conference: *Moving Forward to Improve Health Literacy* in 2004, the Medication Labeling Project was suggested during the breakout group session: Patient Education and Public Awareness.
 - “Focus on the medicine bottle itself and redesign it so that it is more useful ...”
- The ACP Foundation embarked on the first stage of a multi-phased Medication Labeling Project by seeking an evidence-based review.

ACP Foundation Medication Labeling Project

A History

- The project began with:
 - an intense literature review;
 - an exploration of the case for wide-scale improvements in medication labeling;
 - an investigation of current practices and regulatory issues;
 - evidence of a problem with current practices, and;
 - potential solutions and opportunities for reform.
- The preliminary research findings of Dr. Shrank and Dr. Shekelle were presented at the ACP Foundation's Fourth Annual National Health Communication Conference in November 2005.
- Two manuscripts of work are currently under peer review.

ACP Foundation Medication Labeling Project

A History

- An Advisory Group convened during the Conference, bringing together the Principal Investigators and the Expert Review Panel with additional health care professionals and experts in policy, law, and design. This multi-perspective working group discussed and identified the next steps for the Medication Labeling Project.
- In April 2006, the Board of Trustees approved the following next steps:
 - Convene a strategic planning group;
 - Develop a prototype model for the medication bottle label, and;
 - Convene a diverse body of stakeholders that will provide advice and input into the strategic plan and the prototype.

ACP Foundation Medication Labeling Project

A History

On September 26, 2006, the following experts convened to explore and recommend next steps for improving labels:

- Ruth Parker, MD, FACP (ACP)
- Albert Wu, MD, MPH (Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Faculty)
- William Shrank, MD, MSHS (Harvard Medical School)
- Scott Smith, RPh, PhD (representing Carolyn Clancy, MD, FACP, AHRQ)
- Charles Ganley, MD (FDA)
- Michael Wolf, PhD, MPH (Northwestern University)
- Alastair Wood, MD (Symphony Capital LLC)