



## Topic Designator 99: Additional Topic Areas Activity Guidance

August 2023

**This document summarizes the findings from a July 2023 audit of educational activities using the topic designator of 99: Additional Topic Areas. Further, this document provides guidance on how to appropriately assign topic designator to activities based on common occurrences where a topic designator more appropriate than 99 was not used to describe an activity.**

Commonly, activities labeled with the topic designator 99 could have been more appropriately labeled as 01: Disease State Management/Drug Therapy, 03: Law Related to Pharmacy Practice, 04: Pharmacy Administration, 05: Patient Safety, and 08: Opioids/Pain Management/Substance Use Disorder. These topic designators are listed and described in Table 1.

**Table 1. Topic Designators and Descriptions**

<b>Topic Designator</b>	<b>Description</b>
99: Additional Topic Areas	Activities related to topics relevant to the practice of pharmacy not included in the classifications of the topic designators 01-08.
01: Disease State Management/Drug Therapy	Activities that address drugs, drug therapy, and/or disease states.
03: Law Related to Pharmacy Practice	Activities that address federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations affecting the practice of pharmacy.
04: Pharmacy Administration	Activities that address topics relevant to the practice of pharmacy that include the economic, social, administrative, and managerial aspects of pharmacy practice and health care.
05: Patient Safety	Activities that address topics relevant to the prevention of healthcare errors and the elimination or mitigation of patient injury caused by healthcare errors.
08: Opioids/Pain Management/Substance Use Disorder	Activities that address any component regarding the treatment and management of pain, including the prescribing, distribution, and use of opioid medications, and/or the risks, symptoms, and treatment of opioid misuse/addiction.

## Topic Designator Guidance

- **01: Disease State Management/Drug Therapy**
  - Activities which address nonpharmacologic and medical disease state management should still be submitted with the topic designator of 01 for Disease State Management. In the description for these activities, note that the activity addressed drugs, drug therapy, **and/or disease states**.
  - Additionally, activities should be denoted as 01 when learning objectives include OTC medications and general medication classes (e.g., contraceptives, smoking cessation, etc.)
  - Supplements should also be included under the 01-topic designator (e.g., Supplements for Cognitive Function)
- **03: Law Related to Pharmacy Practice**
  - Education on state and federal legislative updates which impact pharmacy practice should be given a 03-topic designator (e.g., Legislative and Regulatory Issues Affecting Pharmacy in [STATE] Update). This may include legislative changes related to prescriptive authority, provider status, or specific bills directly related to pharmacy practice.
  - Activities designed to help pharmacies develop practices to implement processes and procedures to mitigate legal actions should also be included under the 03-topic designator.
- **04: Pharmacy Administration**
  - Several activities which reflect education on management, reimbursement models, developing new pharmacy services, marketing, and pharmacy operation (e.g., 340B Programs, New Clinical Services, Billing, DIR Fees, eCare plans, value-based payment models, direct contracting) should continue to be assigned a topic designator of 04 for Pharmacy Administration.
  - Education focused on enhanced practice networks and initiatives (CPESN, Flip-the-Pharmacy) should be included under the 04-topic designator.
- **05: Patient Safety**
  - Activities focused on Just Culture, deprescribing, and other strategies and/or interventions used to promote patient safety and safe medication use on the individual and organizational level should be assigned a topic designator of 05 for Patient Safety.
- **08: Opioids/Pain Management/Substance Use Disorder**
  - All activities providing education on opioids should be submitted with the topic designator of 08 for Pain Management. This is true of activities related to ethical considerations for pain management using opioids, substance use disorders (SUD) containing opioid-related content, and opioid antagonists used to reverse or reduce the effects of opioids (i.e., naloxone).

When submitting an activity, the keywords and activity examples included in Table 2 can serve as guidance to assure the most appropriate topic designator is selected.

Table 2. Topic Designators, Key Words, and Activity Examples to Guide Topic Designator Assignment

Topic Designator	Key Words or Descriptives	Activity Examples
01: Disease State Management/Drug Therapy	Condition Specific Terms (i.e., Acute Appendicitis); Pharmacology; Medication Classes (i.e., Contraceptives)	<p>Nonoperative vs. Operative <u>Management of Acute Appendicitis</u> in Older Adults</p> <p>Introduction to <u>Psychedelic Psychopharmacology</u></p> <p><u>Smoking Cessation: Helping Patients Quit</u></p> <p><u>Contraception: A Primer for Pharmacists</u></p>
03: Law Related to Pharmacy Practice	Senate Bill; House Bill; Legislative Updates; Regulatory Updates; Legal Action; Laws related to Provider Status or Prescriptive Authority; Legal; State or Federal Laws or Legal Requirements	<p>Documentation To <u>Avoid Legal Actions</u></p> <p>[STATE]: An Update to the [STATE] <u>Legislature</u></p> <p>Description of Pharmacist-Provided Clinical Services Implementation under State <u>Senate Bill [#]</u></p> <p><u>Legislative and Regulatory Issues Affecting Pharmacy</u> in [STATE] June 2023</p> <p>Essential Access Health: <u>Senate Bill [#]: Expanded Access to Expedited Partner Therapy for Pharmacists</u></p>
04: Pharmacy Administration	Pharmacy Service, Process, or Program; Billing; Reimbursement Models; 340B; Marketing; eCare plans; CPESN; Flip-the-Pharmacy; Research on Pharmacy Services	<p>Eliminating the Middleman: <u>Building a Cost-Plus Insurance-Free Pharmacy</u></p> <p><u>Flip the Pharmacy's Impact on Pharmacy Engagement</u> in a Payer Program for Patient Care Services</p> <p>Update on <u>340B &amp; Pharmacy Impact</u></p> <p>[SATE] <u>Medicaid (and PBM) Compliance Program Requirements</u></p>
05: Patient Safety	Just Culture; Deprescribing; Safe Use of Medications; Safety Evaluation and Surveillance	<p><u>Deprescribing: How to Ensure that Older Adults Take the Right Number of Medications. Nothing More Nothing Less</u></p> <p><u>Just Culture: Safety is Everyone's Culture (2023)</u></p>
08: Opioids/Pain Management/Substance Use Disorder	Opioids, Substance Use Disorder; Opioid Crisis; Pain Management	<p>Using MI/MET to Discuss <u>Opioid Safety and Chronic Pain with Veterans</u></p>

		Opioids: The Pharmacists Role in the <u>Opioid Epidemic</u> Reducing Risk & Saving Lives: Provider and Staff <u>Naloxone Education</u>
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**Additional Reminders**

- **RSS Activities:** For regularly scheduled series (RSS) activities, the same topic designator should apply to all RSS sessions. If a session within the RSS contains content which could be assigned a more appropriate topic designator, the session should be submitted as a new activity UAN with the appropriate topic designator.
- **State-specific Requirements:** When submitting activities designed to meet specific state board requirements, select the specific state, and specify the activity topic in the Provider Web Tool. Images from the Provider Web Tool of what the documentation should look like can be found in Appendix A.

If you have additional questions or require further guidance on assigning topic designators, please contact ACPE staff at [ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org](mailto:ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org).

## Appendix A. Provider Web Tool Recertification and State Specific Requirements

Step 1: When entering an activity in the Provider Web Tool, under the “CE Requirements” tab, you will have the opportunity to document that the activity was designed to meet re-certification or state regulator requirements. If either or both apply, select “Yes.”

**Add Activity**

Please enter data into all tabs prior to clicking save. Please note that if you are making edits to an existing ADF, the fields in Blue cannot be altered. If you need to change any of the fields in blue, please complete the Request Change in Activity form. If you have any questions, please contact ACPE.

Submit To ACPE   Save, Submit Later   Save, Keep Editing   Cancel Entire Activity   Main Menu

General   Learning Objectives   Keywords   **CE Requirements**   Grant Support   Home Study Format

The following documents outline the current state board CE requirements for Pharmacy:

- State Board Pharmacist CE Requirements for 2023
- State Board Pharmacy Technician CE Requirements for 2023

In order to assist in the identification of specific CE Activities required for re-licensure or re-certification by Pharmacists or Pharmacy Technicians, please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

1. Is this activity designed to meet specific re-certification requirement?    No    Yes    Not Sure

2. Is this activity designed to meet a specific state regulatory requirement?    No    Yes    Not Sure

Step 2: Select the state(s) where the regulatory requirement exists, and that the activity was designed to meet.

2. Is this activity designed to meet a specific state regulatory requirement?  No  Yes  Not Sure

**\*\* Please choose one or more states \*\***

- |   |   |  |                                       |   |                                       |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alaska         | <input type="checkbox"/> Alabama              | <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas      | <input type="checkbox"/> Arizona      | <input type="checkbox"/> California     | <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut    | <input type="checkbox"/> District of Columbia | <input type="checkbox"/> Delaware      | <input type="checkbox"/> Florida      | <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia        | <input type="checkbox"/> Guam         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii         | <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Idaho         | <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois     | <input type="checkbox"/> Indiana        | <input type="checkbox"/> Kansas       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky       | <input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana            | <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts | <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland     | <input type="checkbox"/> Maine          | <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota      | <input type="checkbox"/> Missouri             | <input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi   | <input type="checkbox"/> Montana      | <input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina | <input type="checkbox"/> North Dakota |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska       | <input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire        | <input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey    | <input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico   | <input type="checkbox"/> Nevada         | <input type="checkbox"/> New York     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ohio           | <input type="checkbox"/> Oklahoma             | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania | <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rico    | <input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island |
| <input type="checkbox"/> South Carolina | <input type="checkbox"/> South Dakota         | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee     | <input type="checkbox"/> Texas        | <input type="checkbox"/> Utah           | <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Virgin Islands | <input type="checkbox"/> Vermont              | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin    | <input type="checkbox"/> West Virginia  | <input type="checkbox"/> Wyoming      |

Step 3: Select the specific content area the activity is designed to meet. This will allow learners and state boards of pharmacy to identify the activity as designed to meet the specific content area.

2a. Does the content of the CE activity address any of the following areas?

**\*\* If applicable, choose one or more value \*\***

- Child Abuse Prevention or Reporting
- Collaborative Practice
- Contraception
- Cultural Competency
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (including bias)
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning (LGBTQ)
- Human Trafficking
- Mental Health Awareness
- Nicotine Replacement
- Non-Sterile Compounding
- Nursing Home Consulting
- Pharmacist Prescriptive Authority
- Precepting
- Sexual Harassment
- Sterile Compounding
- Suicide Prevention