

2022 America's Got Regulatory Science Talent Competitions
Presentation Abstracts & Student Biographies

University of Maryland	
1st Place Team	"AcetaSAFE" <p>The team presented their idea to develop a QR code for over-the-counter (OTC) acetaminophen and prescription medications. The aim is to improve patient knowledge of acetaminophen dosing. The group found that patients often lack clear understanding of their appropriate acetaminophen dosing for different health needs, which can put consumers at risk of an overdose. When acetaminophen is taken in excess, it can cause long-term effects on the liver, the group said. Given this, the team believes that a QR code will help improve patient education, raise awareness of OTC and prescription drug toxicity, and decrease hospitalization costs. The AcetaSAFE team was awarded first place for their presentation, which the judges described as interactive and transformative.</p>
Team Members	Iulia Opran, Chenchu Vignesh Pernati, Belinda Tamrakar
Presentation Abstract	The FDA's Safe Use Initiative identifies the need to reduce harm to patients due to preventable medication errors and has prioritized improving prescription container labels for acetaminophen-containing medicines. AcetaSAFE addresses the FDA's goal by proposing the implementation of a QR code on Acetaminophen OTC and prescription medications which provides patient education on acetaminophen dosing strategies to minimize toxicities and overdose. In improving patient knowledge regarding acetaminophen we anticipate a reduction in the hospitalization and overall costs to the health care system. The interactive interface allows patients to find relevant information about acetaminophen and raises awareness about potential harm from excessive dosing. AcetaSAFE ultimately serves as a proponent in the modernization of QR codes to medications and serves to mitigate safety concerns with current acetaminophen labeling.
Team Member Bios	
Iulia Opran	Iulia Opran is a second year student at University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Prior to pharmacy school, she obtained jobs at Giant Pharmacy and Sinai Hospital in the pharmacy departments where she still works today. She previously attended Towson University with a major in Biology and concentration in Molecular and Cell Biology. During her pharmacy school years, she worked as a research assistant in the Infectious Disease department at UMMC analyzing COVID-19 data and antibiotic use. She serves as Historian of Students Promoting Awareness (SPA) and is an active member of Phi Lambda Sigma and Rho Chi Honor Society. She plans to earn a dual degree in Regulatory Science and Doctor of Pharmacy. Following graduation, she hopes to continue her path in Pharmacovigilance and Drug Safety.
Chenchu Vignesh Pernati	Chenchu Vignesh is a second year pharmacy student attending the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP). Prior to pharmacy school, he worked at the Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology Research (IBBR) and focused on evaluating transcytosis mechanisms of drug carriers in treating Lysosomal Storage Disorder (LSD). At UMSOP, he currently serves as President-Elect for the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) and as chair of the Leadership Development Series for Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS). This past summer, Chenchu Vignesh also worked as an ORISE Fellow in the Division of Pharmacometrics at the FDA with the main objective of his deliverables being to modernize pharmacometric drug labeling. He plans to pursue a fellowship upon graduation in the field of regulatory or medical affairs.

Belinda Tamrakar	Belinda Tamrakar is a second year student at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP). She graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County with a B.A. in Biological Sciences and a Creative Writing Minor. She currently serves as the President-Elect of the Student Section of the Maryland Public Health Association (SMdPHA) and the Vice President of Professional Development for the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP). She is an active member within Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS), Phi Delta Chi Fraternity, and the Student Government Association (SGA). In addition to the PharmD program, she is on the Pharmapreneurship Pathway and hopes to create creative innovative solutions to improve health outcomes in Managed Care and Industry with a focus on Public Health.
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University of Maryland	
2nd Place Team	<p>“Keeping Blood Glucose SweetNLow”</p> <p>The team presented their idea for optimizing continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices by incorporating patient-centered outcomes (PCO) as research prompts for diabetes patients. There is currently no one-size-fits-all solution for diabetes patients. Recognizing this, the team proposes a standard interface via which a patient could monitor subjective data – including symptoms, daily activity, and/or health complications. The platform would also offer prompts that would appear when a patient’s glucose levels are outside their target range. In this way, Team “Keeping Blood Glucose SweetNLow” aims to make diabetes care more personalized and easier for patients to manage. Team SweetNLow was awarded second place for their idea, which the judges noted to be interesting and innovative.</p>
Team Members	Joanna Shaju, Rebecca Faulkner, Sumbel Malik, Ivan Jay Bauzon, Sabrina Wang
Presentation Abstract	Blood glucose management is a highly subjective and constant issue that millions of patients with Diabetes must navigate through. While technology has greatly progressed over time and has brought innovative new forms of continuous glucose monitoring, there are still areas to improve that can elevate a patient’s experience. “Keeping Blood Glucose SweetNLow” aims to refute the idea that diabetes management is “one number fits all,” and a patient’s blood glucose data should not just be monitored but optimized with patient input and subjective data. Incorporating more interactive prompts and calibrating a patient’s blood glucose trends to their personal data are goals that SweetNLow hopes to integrate.
Team Member Bios	
Joanna Shaju	Joanna Shaju is a second year PharmD candidate at the University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy. She graduated from Virginia Tech with a BS in Biochemistry and a minor in Chemistry. Currently, Joanna works with the Pharmacometrics Department at UMSOP on research on the gap in pharmacokinetics data for certain populations and the role of modeling to alleviate that gap. Her interests post-graduation include clinical pharmacology and pharmacovigilance. At UMSOP, she is involved with APhA-ASP Operation Diabetes and hopes to continue to bring awareness to diabetes in the community of Baltimore.
Rebecca Faulkner	Rebecca Faulkner is a second year pharmacy student at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. She grew up in New Mexico and graduated from the University of New Mexico with a B.S. in Biochemistry. Throughout pharmacy school, Rebecca has been heavily involved in a number of organizations and has pursued opportunities to further her knowledge of regulatory affairs and the pharmaceutical industry. Her current interests include drug safety and pharmacovigilance. Rebecca hopes to pursue a fellowship upon graduation from pharmacy school.
Sumbel Malik	Sumbel Malik is a P2 student at the University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy. Her interests are currently in clinical pharmacy!

Ivan Jay Bauzon	<p>Ivan Jay Bauzon is a P2 student at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. He is from Virginia Beach and completed his undergraduate studies and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Prior to pharmacy school, he completed an internship and worked as an Associate Biologist for ATCC where he got the chance to contribute in research projects and learn about cell lines. His current interests in pharmacy after graduation are Clinical Research, Ambulatory Care, Nuclear Pharmacy, or Residency.</p> <p>He looks forward to presenting the project to you all with his team!</p>
Sabrina Wang	<p>Sabrina is a PharmD candidate set to graduate in 2024 at the University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy. She received her BS in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is passionate about geriatrics, providing quality care to underserved populations, and patient centered care. Sabrina has worked as a pharmacy technician at Giant Pharmacy since 2017 and has formed valuable relationships with both her co-workers and patients. Currently, her research with UMSOP faculty focuses on patient centered care outcomes research (PCOR) and its direct implications on elder care. This past summer, Sabrina interned in the FDA Office of Clinical Pharmacology as an ORISE Fellow, conducting research on drug-drug interaction risks of small molecule immunosuppressants used in transplantation. She enjoys being active in the UMSOP community, through her roles in ASCP and AMCP.</p>