How to get started with PAI as a State Affiliate

1. Build a team or task force to lead the initiative within your state affiliate. Consider who to involve on this team: experienced member(s) from the original PPMI summit and ambulatory care summit, leaders of health-systems large and small, students, and residents. A dedicated group of leaders helps ensure your PAI efforts stay on track.

2. Utilize the “State Affiliate Tool Kit” to plan your efforts. This provides a road map for leading your state through the PAI, with a timeline for meetings and sample agendas you can customize to your state.

3. Communicate the WHY. PAI is about empowering the pharmacy team to take responsibility for medication-use outcomes in both acute and ambulatory care settings. The goal of this initiative is to significantly advance the health and well-being of patients by supporting futuristic practice models that support the most effective use of pharmacists as direct patient care providers.

4. Encourage completion of the Hospital Self-Assessment (HSA) and Ambulatory Care Self-Assessment (ACSA) and corresponding action plans. Dedicating some time to the self-assessments will help identify gaps in your practice and allow you to target areas to work on.
   a. Consider calling health-system leaders and ambulatory care practitioners unable to attend meetings in person to explain the initiative and encourage them to complete the self-assessments.
   b. Create a scripted outreach and, if needed, contact ASHP to help facilitate completion of the assessment few representatives from a health-system or an ambulatory care practitioner and facilitate completion of the assessment.

5. Use the action plan to identify high priority, feasible areas (e.g., Pharmacy driven medication reconciliation or residency program expansion) Focus on a few key areas that are achievable and meaningful that help solve a problem in your state.

6. Set self-assessment completion goals for your state. Aim for at least 50% completion and track your state’s progress to update your members. Consider using your website, social media, and/or newsletters as a way to celebrate the progress you make!

7. Engage student pharmacists and residents—
   a. Have them help with the self-assessment surveys (completion, tracking)
   b. Share how interns/students serve as pharmacist extenders at different health systems within your state, allowing pharmacists dedicate more time to complex patients

8. Apply for a PAI grant. The ASHP Foundation has $2000 seed grants available to support practice advancement focused programs. States that have held PAI summits through grants have not only shown better survey completion results, but also established clear practice advancement priorities and successfully advocated for expanded pharmacy scopes of practice.

9. Provide updates on your PAI task force at Board Meetings. Your task force represents your membership and should represent their views, so it’s good to check in. Additionally, the task force should work with the leadership and governance of your affiliate to provide recommendations. For example, suggesting an educational session on antimicrobial stewardship at your annual meeting to your Educational Affairs Division.

10. Share your success stories
    a. Current successes from PAI grants include:
       i. Development of a state affiliate strategic plan for advancing pharmacy practice across all pharmacy practice settings
       ii. Leveraging the use of students/residents for outreach (e.g., survey completion, projects)
       iii. Identifying practice advancement opportunities across the state and developing consensus priorities while keeping scope attainable
       iv. Creation of a pharmacist care transitions toolkit to decrease care fragmentation across the continuum
       v. Advancing the roles and responsibilities of pharmacy technicians to expand services
       vi. Creation of a state affiliate PAI task force or steering committee
       vii. Residency expansion including layered learning