



**California State Board of Pharmacy**  
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STATE AND CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR

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To Interested Parties:

The most important aspect of taking a prescription medication is understanding and following the directions for its use, but approximately 46 percent of American adults cannot understand the instructions on the prescription container label. While current prescription container labels display important information about how to take the medicine, the directions are not always the easiest for patients to read and understand. Moreover, every pharmacy's prescription label is frequently formatted somewhat differently from other pharmacies.

To address this problem, the California Patient Medication Safety Act of 2007 was enacted to require the California State Board of Pharmacy to develop regulations requiring a standardized, patient-centered, prescription drug label to be used on all prescription medication dispensed to patients in California.

Because input from the public on this project is vital, the Board is hosting informal public hearings statewide, seeking information from patients about their ideas for improving prescription container labels. Improving the way information is presented on the labels can increase consumer protection and improve the health, safety, and well-being of consumers. The first meeting will be held from **10:00am to 2:00pm on April 12, 2008, at the Wally Pond Irvington Community Center, 41885 Blacow Road in Fremont.** The public is invited and strongly encouraged to attend and participate.

Please direct any questions related to the meeting to: Tina Thomas  
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