# **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S PHARMACISTS IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF COMMUNITIES**

Pharmacists are a valued member of the healthcare team and data shows that there is a need for pharmacist-provided patient care services. The potential impact of implementing programs that provide coverage for these services is great, improving health equity and access to care.



# QUALIFIED



Courses focused on pharmacotherapy, patient education, disease management, and clinical decision-making.



Pharmacists take the North America Pharmacist Licensure Exam (NAPLEX) & Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE).



Many pharmacists complete Post-Graduate Residencies, Fellowships, and/or Board Certification in specialty areas.

As of 2004, all pharmacy school graduates earn the **PharmD** degree...a doctorate dearee to reflect the increased complexity of pharmacotherapy and advanced training required for adequate provision of patient care.

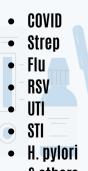
#### Pharmacists are the Most Accessible Healthcare Professionals

900 **Pharmacists** in District of Columbia<sup>1</sup>

89% Americans live within 5 miles of a community pharmacy<sup>2</sup>

#### **TEST & TREAT**

Pharmacists and pharmacies are increasingly offering this public health service of test and treat to promote prevention, early detection, and disease management. Patients are referred when appropriate.



& others

Annually, Americans visit their pharmacy 35 times vs. 4 times

at their primary care provider.<sup>3</sup>

## Number of pharmacies is 15% higher

than number of provider's offices

in communities where more than 30% of households live in poverty.<sup>4</sup>



Since May 2020, there has been a 200% increase in the # of pharmacies with CLIA/point of care waivers in the U.S., leading to more pharmacist accessibility for patient care services.<sup>5</sup>





# **PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT**



Approximately 50% of all adults in the U.S. have one or more chronic disease conditions <sup>6</sup>



**Chronic conditions** account for over 85% of total U.S. health care costs <sup>7</sup>



Saved for every \$1 spent on pharmacist service.<sup>8</sup>

**INFLUENZA** 

2022 Flu Season

Pharmacies have given

VS

10.7 Million

given at provider's offices <sup>11</sup>

18.7 Million

## **COVID-19**

From February 2020 - November 2022, pharmacists in the U.S. provided more than





**Engaging Pharmacists & Their Teams** 

Expanding the number of pharmacies with test-and-treat sites in medically underserved areas could increase access to COVID-19 treatment



## **OPIOID CRISIS**

patients.<sup>16</sup>

#### 80,000 Americans died from an opioid overdose in 2021.<sup>14</sup>



Naloxone access laws that grant pharmacists direct States authorize pharmacists authority to prescribe are to administer naltrexone to associated with significant reductions in fatal overdoses.

This information was developed through a collaboration between NASPA and APhA, with generous support from the Community Pharmacy Foundation.







**District of Columbia** pharmacists are providing flu shots

### IWICH

the hours offered for giving immunizations vs. provider's offices 12



States now authorize pharmacists to directly prescribe antivirals based on a DOSITIVE FLU TEST, <sup>13</sup>

flu shots

District of Columbia pharmacists should be authorized to do this too!

## HIV

Pharmacists have been identified by the CDC as key professionals in achieving one of the CDC's goals of ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. by preventing HIV infection.

> States authorize pharmacists to directly prescribe PrEP.<sup>17</sup>





States authorize pharmacists to directly prescribe PEP.<sup>17</sup>



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