

Enhancing Immunization Services through Pharmacy

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Financial Disclosure

- I have no relevant financial relationships or affiliations with any commercial interests related to the content of this presentation. I have not received any compensation, services, or products from any commercial entity that could be perceived as a potential conflict of interest.



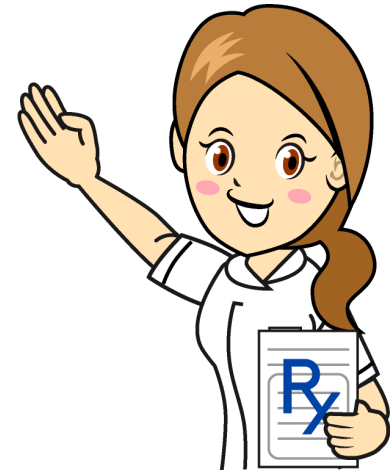
Objectives

- Understand the role of the Pharmacist
- Understand what immunizations can be provided in a pharmacy
- Understand who is allowed to administer immunizations in the pharmacy
- Understand the increasing role of pharmacy in providing immunizations
- Understand immunization schedule changes and affects on practice
- Understand the affects of the PREP Act expiration
- Gain an appreciation for the legislative process and advocacy



What Does the Pharmacist Do?

- As of 2004, all pharmacy school graduates earn the PharmD degree, a doctorate degree to reflect the increased complexity of pharmacotherapy and advanced training required for adequate provision of patient care.
- **Immunizations** and more!
- **Health screenings**
- **Point-of-care testing**, with treatment allowed in some states
- Medication therapy management
- **Chronic disease management**
- Therapeutic drug monitoring
- All this while still ensuring medications are safe and effective for patients



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QUALIFIED

Pharmacists are Highly Qualified Healthcare Providers



6+ YEARS

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



LICENSURE

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



ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

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 degree to reflect the increased complexity of pharmacotherapy and advanced training required for adequate provision of patient care.



PATIENT-SPECIFIC SERVICES

- Patient education
- Drug interaction screening
- Drug therapy monitoring
- Drug and disease management
- Pharmacogenetics
- Drug information
- Pharmacokinetic/ pharmacodynamic dosing
- Collaborative practice agreements



FACILITY-SPECIFIC SERVICES

- Protocol, guideline, and policy development and review
- Research
- Core measure and quality improvement initiatives
- Formulary management and financial stewardship
- Medication safety



GLOBAL SERVICES

- Governmental and societal committees and agencies
- Societal guideline and policy development
- Legal consultations
- Public health initiatives

The Expanding Role of the Pharmacist



Immunizations in the Pharmacy

- Ch. 16, Sec. 4(a)
 - Pharmacists shall utilize the manufacturer's package insert for indications, contraindications, adverse reactions, dosing, route of administration, specifics regarding administration, and storage requirements for immunizations when prescribing, administering, and supervising the administration of vaccines.
- In other words, **pharmacists in Wyoming can prescribe and administer all vaccines**
- Pharmacy Technicians were granted administration ability in the 2022 legislative session
 - By rule must complete the same training required of a pharmacist
- Rules were last updated in August of 2023



Record Keeping

Keeping your records complete is like brushing every tooth; miss one, and it'll come back to bite you!

- Requirements
 - Questioner and consent form
 - Attestation of counseling
 - Advise patient to remain in the area 15 minutes
 - WY Stat § 33-24-157 (2022) Immunization administration
 - “A pharmacist administering vaccinations pursuant to this section shall enter a record of the immunization in the Wyoming immunization registry operated by the department of health”
 - Passed in 2014 all pharmacies to be compliant by 2015
- **Use WYIR, it will be your best friend!**



Immunization Stats

- Pharmacists have been providing immunizations for over 20 years*
- Majority of adult immunizations are given at a pharmacy
- Post 2020 pharmacies have seen a major increase in vaccine administration
- Pharmacies are increasing immunization rates of atypical vaccines
 - HPV
 - Shingles
 - RSV?

*In Wyoming Pharmacists have been immunizing since July of 2014, 10 years
Trends in Vaccine Administration in the United States. IQVIA. (2023, January 13).

<https://www.iqvia.com/insights/the-iqvia-institute/reports-and-publications/reports/trends-in-vaccine-administration-in-the-united-states>



Number of claims/100,000 eligible persons and % share of adult* vaccines in pharmacy vs. non-pharmacy medical settings



Trends in Vaccine Administration in the United States. IQVIA. (2023, January 13). <https://www.iqvia.com/insights/the-iqvia-institute/reports-and-publications/reports/trends-in-vaccine-administration-in-the-united-states>



Highlights of Immunization Schedule Changes

- COVID-19
 - Pemgarda™ a monoclonal antibody immunization approved for use in pre-exposure prophylaxis for moderate to severely immunocompromised
 - Guidance provided on using updated vaccines, bivalent were removed from all recommendations
- Influenza
 - Persons with any severity of egg allergy can be vaccinated with any type of flu vaccine
- Pneumonia
 - PCV13 has been removed from all recommendations
 - “Special situations” have all been updated to reflect use of PCV15, PCV20, and PPSV23



Highlights of Immunization Schedule Changes

- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
 - Note added for administration in 60 and older and pregnant women from weeks 32-36 during September – January
 - Added guidance on administration of nirsevimab in infants six months and older
 - RSV vaccine added to the list of vaccines excluded from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VCIP)
- Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
 - Guidance was added for immunizing those 26-45 (22-23 clarification)
 - Clarification was provided on catch up doses
- DTaP/Tdap
 - Clarification was provided on primary and booster doses adding Tdap as booster for primary series



Highlights of Immunization Schedule Changes

- Polio
 - “Catch up” has been revised to include 18 year old individuals with special risk factors
- Meningococcal
 - Menactra has been removed from all sections and been replaced with Penbraya™ or a combination of Menveo® and Bexsero®
- Mpox
 - Guidance added for use in adolescents at age 18 based on risk factors
 - Mpox vaccine added to the list of vaccines excluded from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP)
 - Mpox vaccine added to the list of vaccines covered by the Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program (CICP)



PREP Act for Pharmacy

- Allowed pharmacists and pharmacy technicians under the supervision of a pharmacist to administer without a prescriber order
 - COVID-19 vaccines for all individuals who are 3 years of age and older
 - All Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices–recommended(ACIP) pediatric vaccines to those between 3 and 18 years
 - Flu vaccines for all patients 18 years and older
- Allowed pharmacists to order and administer COVID 19 test
- Allowed pharmacists to prescribe COVID antivirals
- Allowed pharmacists to therapeutically adjust medications when a COVID antiviral has been prescribed



Expiration of PREP Act

- Scheduled to end October 1, 2024
- What does that mean for Wyoming?
 - Pharmacists will no longer have test to treat privileges and will need a collaborative practice agreement or providers order
 - Pharmacist will not have the ability to therapeutically adjust medication for COVID antivirals
 - Can only administer immunizations to those 7 years and above
- Good news!
 - Pharmacy technicians were statutorily given the ability to immunize in Wyoming in 2022





Wyoming Pharmacy Locations

Pharmacies provide much needed access to healthcare to the people of Wyoming

[Wyoming Pharmacy Landscape](#)



Advocating for Wyoming Patients

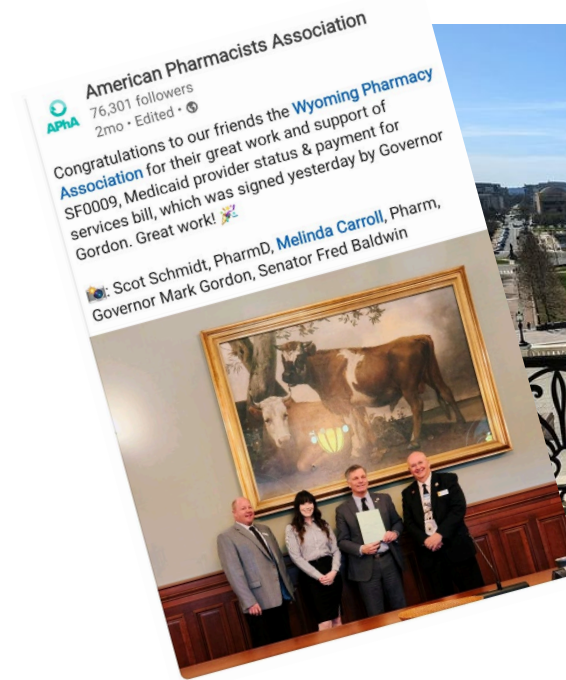
- How to prevent the loss of care?
 - Encourage Wyoming law makers to take the steps needed to allow pharmacists to engage in test-to-treat practice
 - Work with your local pharmacies to start a collaborative practice agreement allowing test-to-treat
 - Support Federal Legislation:
 - **H.R.1770 Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act.** Allows pharmacist to continue PREP Act COVID measures for all respiratory viruses for Medicare eligible patients. Currently has 160 cosponsors
 - **S.2477 Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act.** Mirror bill in the Senate increasing chances of the topic being heard. Currently has 24 cosponsors
 - Must be heard before the end of the year. Last action on either bill was in 2023



Advocate for your Profession and Patients

- [Legislature Website](#)
- [Attend a Committee meeting](#)
- [Discover pertinent legislation](#)
- [Find your legislator](#)
- [Contact your Senator](#)
- [Contact your Representative](#)

▪ It is all about starting, when you are involved, you get to mold what your profession looks like



PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT



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



Chronic conditions account for over 85% of total U.S. health care costs ⁷



Saved for every \$1 spent on pharmacist service. ⁸

COVID-19

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



COVID-19 tests ⁹



COVID-19 Vaccinations ⁹

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



INFLUENZA

Wyoming pharmacists are providing flu shots

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

2022 Flu Season

Pharmacies have given **18.7 Million** flu shots vs **10.7 Million** given at provider's offices ¹¹



States now authorize pharmacists to directly prescribe antivirals based on a positive flu test. ¹³

Wyoming pharmacists should be authorized to do this too!

OPIOID CRISIS

80,000 Americans died from an opioid overdose in 2021. ¹⁴

221 average deaths per day ¹⁵



States, including Wyoming, authorize pharmacists to administer naltrexone to patients. ¹⁶

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

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. ¹⁷



States authorize pharmacists to directly prescribe PEP. ¹⁷

Pharmacists Increase Access to Care and in turn improve Public Health Outcomes

ACCESSIBLE

Pharmacists are the Most Accessible Healthcare Professionals

530 Pharmacists in Wyoming ¹

Annually, Americans visit their pharmacy **35 times** vs. **4 times** at their primary care provider. ³

Number of pharmacies is **15% higher** than number of provider's offices in communities where more than 30% of households live in poverty. ⁴

89%

Americans live within 5 miles of a community pharmacy ²

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.

- COVID
- Strep
- Flu
- RSV
- UTI
- STI
- H. pylori
- & others

200% increase

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. ⁵

Open Discussion and Questions

- Possible questions:
 - What strategies do you employ at the pharmacy to address public health concerns like flu outbreaks or pandemics?
 - What challenges have you experienced when vaccinating adults in a pharmacy setting?
 - What has been your greatest success providing vaccination services to pharmacy patients?
 - What are steps to initiate a collaborative practice agreement with a pharmacy?
 - Are there pharmacies in Wyoming providing expanded services that you mentioned?



Citations

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