

# VERMONT'S PHARMACISTS

## IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF COMMUNITIES



Pharmacists are essential members of the healthcare team and evidence clearly shows the growing need for pharmacist-provided patient care services. To guarantee equitable access to this vital care, both public and private health plans must cover pharmacists' patient care services.



### QUALIFIED

#### HIGHLY QUALIFIED HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS



##### EDUCATION

6-8 years of education including pharmacotherapy, disease management, and clinical decision-making



##### CLINICAL TRAINING

At least 1,740 hours of clinical practice experience focused on high-quality patient care in a variety of healthcare settings



##### ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Many complete post-graduate residencies, fellowships, and/or board certifications in various specialty areas

All current pharmacy school graduates earn the PharmD degree, a doctorate degree reflecting the advanced pharmacotherapy knowledge and comprehensive patient care training essential for providing high quality pharmacist services, a requirement that has been in place since 2004.

### ACCESSIBLE

#### MOST ACCESSIBLE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL

**530**  
Pharmacists  
in Vermont <sup>1</sup>

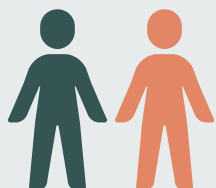
**850**  
Pharmacy  
Technicians  
in Vermont <sup>1</sup>

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

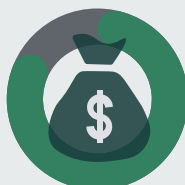
Number of pharmacies is  
**15% higher**  
than number of  
provider's offices  
in communities where more than  
30% of households live in poverty. <sup>3</sup>

### PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT

#### VITAL TO IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH



Approximately 50% of  
all adults in the U.S.  
have one or more  
chronic disease  
conditions. <sup>4</sup>



Chronic conditions  
account for over 85%  
of total U.S. health  
care costs. <sup>4</sup>



Saved for every \$1  
spent on pharmacist  
service. <sup>5</sup>

# COVERAGE OF SERVICES

Pharmacists' clinical services are **rarely** covered under the medical benefit by **health plans**. This creates **barriers** to patients using their health insurance to receive care from pharmacists.

**\$9.64** return on investment for every \$1 when pharmacists are paid for providing various patient care services.<sup>6</sup>

All health plans, public and private, **must** cover the services pharmacists provide to ensure patient access.

## TEST & TREAT

**Pharmacy-based point-of-care testing and treatment services provide prevention and early detection for minor health conditions.**

**30**

States now authorize pharmacists to directly order and administer CLIA-waived tests.

States now authorize pharmacists to directly prescribe treatment pursuant to a CLIA-waived test.

**13**

### Common Pharmacy-Based CLIA-Waived Tests\*

COVID-19	Flu	UTI	HIV
Strep	RSV	STI	& more

\*Abbreviation details available on references page.

## IMMUNIZATIONS

Vermont pharmacists are independently prescribing vaccines.

Pharmacies offer **TWICE** the operating hours for giving immunizations vs. provider's offices<sup>7</sup>

### 2023-24 Flu Season

Pharmacies gave **37.6 Million** flu shots

vs

**25.5 Million** given at provider's offices<sup>8</sup>

**27**

States now authorize pharmacists to **directly prescribe** and administer vaccines to patients.

## OPIOID USE DISORDER

**81,000 Americans** died from an opioid overdose in 2023.<sup>9</sup>

**222** average deaths per day<sup>9</sup>

**13**

States authorize pharmacists to prescribe medications for opioid use disorder.

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

## HIV PREVENTION

**Pharmacists have been identified by the White House 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 HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medications.

**16**

**19**

States authorize pharmacists to directly prescribe HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) medications.

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



Access our references at [tinyurl.com/2024factsheet](https://tinyurl.com/2024factsheet)  
Or scan this QR code

