Pharmacists as Immunization Providers

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Challenges / Opportunities

- **Authority**
  - Statute
  - Regulation
- **Implementation**
  - Integration
  - Operations
  - Payment
48 states currently authorize pharmacists to administer immunizations
Over 30,000 pharmacists trained
Pharmacist Authority to Administer Immunizations

States authorizing pharmacists

- Before 1978
- 1979
- 1982
- 1987
- 1996
- 1999
- 2002
- 2004
- 2007
- 2008
CONCLUSION. The pharmacist-managed program increased influenza vaccination rates in high-risk patients with cardiovascular disease in advance of the newly published secondary prevention guidelines. Age-related differences in the vaccination rates were eliminated after program implementation.

LOUGHLIN S. M., Mortazavi, A., Garey, K. W., Rice, G. K., and Birtcher, K. K.
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Combined Participant Percent*
Flu, Foot and Eye

*As reported in the Patient Self-Management Program reports each year for 99 patients with baseline, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year results

Align the Incentives, Empower the Patient, Control the Costs SM
Structure of Practice

- Appointment
- Walk-in Anytime
- Walk-in Hourly
- Walk-in Limited
- Clinic

2006 n=266 2007 n=363
2007-08 Influenza Season

- $n=330$
- Total Number of Practice Sites: 11,188
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient Population</th>
<th>Intramuscular Influenza Vaccines</th>
<th>Intranasal Influenza Vaccines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infants &lt; 2 years</td>
<td>1%`</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric patients (2-9 years)</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolescent patients (10-18 years)</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult patients &gt; 18 years</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N = 246 responses
N = 107 responses
Greater than 50% of practice sites plan to do the following in 2008 with their influenza vaccination program:

- Train more pharmacists to administer immunizations
- Increase the number of influenza vaccines administered
- Increase influenza vaccine education and administration efforts from January to April
Please complete the following statement:

"To expand influenza immunization services in our practice we need..."

– Patient education about pharmacists, vaccines, etc
– A huge outbreak of the flu in our area
– Additional local physician support
– Ability to bill for our services to insurance companies other than Medicare Part B.
– Educate pharmacy staff members to understand the importance of getting the influenza vaccinations.
– State laws and regulations to be more pharmacist-friendly.