

Maine's Pharmacists: Improving People's Health

By 2025, the U.S. could see a shortage of as many as 31,100 primary care physicians. Even if nurse practitioners and physician assistants are fully utilized, patient needs will not fully be met.¹

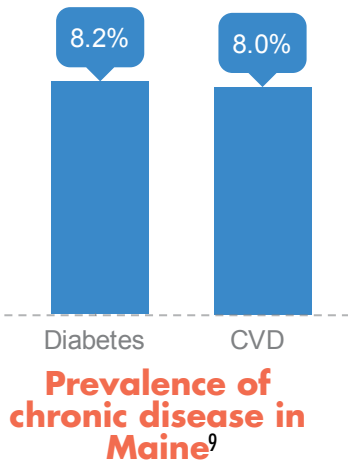
Maine has 68 designated HPSAs and only 42% of the primary care needs in those areas are currently being met.² There are 1,290 highly trained pharmacists in ME who are ready to provide valuable healthcare services.³

Meeting Patients' Needs in Maine

1.34
Million
people⁴

85
thousand people
living in underserved
areas⁵

1,290
Pharmacists
ready to help⁶



Diabetes

Diabetes is a complex condition that is often managed by multiple medications. Pharmacists can optimize care and help patients understand their medications and their condition in order to improve outcomes and avoid complications.⁷

Cardiovascular Disease (CVD)

For patients with uncontrolled high blood pressure, waiting even two months to optimize medications increases the risk of complications, including hospitalizations. Pharmacists are highly accessible members of the care team who significantly improve blood pressure control and can provide timely follow-up and monitoring to improve outcomes.⁸

47%
of Maine residents
were vaccinated
for the flu¹⁰

Immunization rates across the U.S. have continued to increase since pharmacists began vaccinating.¹¹

20%
of people in
Maine smoke
cigarettes¹²

**50% of people with
chronic diseases do
not take their
medicines correctly.**¹⁴



Smoking causes nearly 1 of every 5 deaths in the U.S. each year.¹³ Pharmacists are qualified and capable of providing smoking cessation counseling.

Medications are critical for the treatment of chronic conditions. Pharmacists can help patients use them safely and effectively to avoid medication related problems.



Maine spends **\$1,542,000,000** annually on prescription medications.¹⁵

Investing in pharmacists' services optimizes the use of those prescription medications. Decades of research have proven the value of including pharmacists on healthcare teams. Improved health outcomes, lower costs, and increased access to care could be a reality for Maine residents if pharmacists were fully empowered to serve as patient care providers.

Healthcare \$\$ Spent on Chronic Conditions



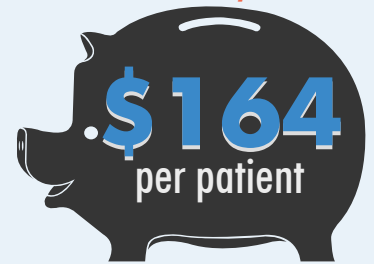
■ Chronic Conditions
■ Other

16

On average
\$1,000
per patient per year is saved

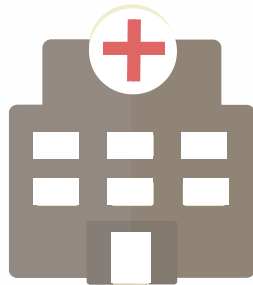
with pharmacist interventions for patients with chronic conditions.¹⁷

Pharmacists' counseling and adherence programs can save the healthcare system



in the 6 months following the start of a new prescription medication.¹⁸

59% of Maine hospitals were penalized for high readmission rates.¹⁹



when pharmacists provide clinical services after discharge.²⁰

Patients are
2X
more likely to stay out of the hospital



Pharmacists in Ohio delivered a **4.4:1 ROI** when providing medication therapy management services to Medicaid patients. Maine pharmacists could do this too!²¹

Maine spent **\$960 million on Medicaid in 2016.**²²

\$4.40
saved per \$1 spent on pharmacists' services

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



Access our references at tinyurl.com/references18 Or scan this QR code with your smartphone