Welcome and Overview
- Sydne Enlund, NCSL

National Overview
- Emily Hawes, PharmD, associate professor of clinical education, UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy
- Stefanie Ferreri, PharmD, chair, UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy Division of Practice Advancement and Clinical Education

State Perspectives
- Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, MD, Oregon
- Senator Evan Vickers, Utah

Q&A
Pharmacists’ Role in Public Health: Increasing Access to Care

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Outline

- Background on the Pharmacy Profession
- Expanded Scope of Practice for Pharmacists
- Challenges and Opportunities Affecting the Role of Pharmacists
Background
Pharmacy Workforce: Size and Location

About 387,000 pharmacists in the US; Anticipated to increase to 410,000 by 2030

Work Locations of Pharmacists, 2018

- Health care facilities: 26%
- Other (physician practices, mail-order pharmacies, pharmaceutical wholesalers, Federal Government): 17%
- Retail dispensing: 43% (57% total)
- General merchandise: 6%
- Food and beverages: 8%
- Drug stores:

Background
Pharmacy Workforce: Size and Location

Pharmacists per 100,000 Population by State, 2017

Background
Pharmacy Workforce: Education and Credentialing

• The Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), a four-year professional degree, is the minimum educational requirement

• To become licensed pharmacists, PharmD graduates must complete:
  • North American Pharmacist Licensure Exam (NAPLEX), a national test of pharmacy skills & knowledge
  • Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE) or another state-specific test on pharmacy law

• Optional residency or fellowship training
• Optional specialty certifications

Background
Public Health Problem and Opportunity

More than **50%** of Americans have at least one chronic condition, and 1 in 4 have two or more.¹

Non-adherence has been shown to result in **$100B** each year in excess hospitalizations.²

**$528B** spent on misuse, underuse, and overuse of medications each year.²,³

**Pharmacists** can address these problems by optimizing medication use that improves patient care and reduces overall healthcare costs.⁴,⁵
Scope of Practice
Expanded Pharmacist Roles

- Providing access to essential medications
- Delivering services to optimize medication use
- Promoting health and wellness

Scope of Practice

Expanded Pharmacist Roles

States are recognizing the value of authorizing pharmacists to prescribe in order to increase access to important medications.

- **Example: Maine**
  - Expanded care agreement with a practitioner for a particular patient

- **Example: Vermont**
  - Expanded care agreement with a practitioner(s) for specified conditions

- **Example: New York**
  - State wide protocol for dispensing naloxone to at-risk patients

- **Example: Idaho**
  - The Board allows pharmacist prescribing of drugs and devices

[Diagram showing Collaborative Practice Agreement (CPA) and Autonomous Prescribing with examples provided for each level: Patient-Specific CPA, Population-Specific CPA, Statewide Protocol, Unrestricted (Category-Specific)]

https://naspa.us/resource/swp/#unique-identifier-continuum
Scope of Practice
Chronic Disease Management

- Diabetes
- Heart Failure
- High Blood Pressure
- High Cholesterol
- Heart Disease
- Hepatitis C
- Osteoporosis
- Pulmonary Disease
- Cancer
- Anemia
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Thyroid Conditions
- Neurologic Conditions
- Mental Health Conditions
- Kidney Disease
Scope of Practice

Opioid Crisis

- Death from opioid overdose doubled from 21,089 in 2010 to 42,249 in 2016.
- States granting pharmacist direct authority to dispense naloxone saw overdose deaths fall by 34%.  
- Pharmacists implement de-prescribing protocols.

https://naspa.us/resource/naloxone-access-community-pharmacies/
Scope of Practice
Smoking & Vaping Crisis

Cigarette smoking is estimated to cause more than 480,000 deaths annually.\(^1\)

Smoking-related illness in the United States costs more than $300 billion each year.\(^1,2\)

Pharmacists are well-positioned to initiate treatment and support individuals throughout the quitting process.

12 states with statutes or regulations addressing pharmacist prescribing of tobacco cessation aids

https://naspa.us/resource/tobacco-cessation/
Scope of Practice
Disease Prevention through Vaccinations

- All 50 states have statutes allowing vaccine administration by pharmacists
- At least 22.2% of influenza vaccines are given in pharmacies

Scope of Practice
The COVID-19 Pandemic

Pharmacists respond:

- CLIA-Waived Testing
- Childhood & Adult Vaccinations
- Chronic Disease Management
- Shortage Management
- Telehealth Services

Total CLIA-Waived Pharmacies

Number of Pharmacy Waivers Approved Since May 8, 2020

https://naspa.us/resource/covid-19-testing/
Challenges

 Variation in scope of practice limits pharmacist engagement with patients across states.

 Pharmacists are routinely reimbursed based on medication product. Reimbursement needs to be aligned with the team-based services provided.

 However, pharmacists ensure access to essential medications, deliver services to optimize medication use, and promote health and wellbeing.

Opportunities
Beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic

1. Assess the needs in your state to see where pharmacy services can improve the healthcare and well-being of your citizens.

2. Determine pharmacy organizations and leaders within your state who can help you take action.

3. Identify successful programs from other states to inform your efforts.

   If you need help getting started, please contact us [here](#)

ESHELMAN SCHOOL OF PHARMACY
Center for Medication Optimization
Consultations
Thank you!

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Emily Hawes: emily_hawes@med.unc.edu
Oregon Pharmacist Prescribing

Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward MD
Oregon District 17
Resources

• Immunization protocols: https://www.oregon.gov/pharmacy/Pages/Immunization-Protocols.aspx

• Contraceptive prescribing: https://www.oregon.gov/pharmacy/Pages/Contraceptive-Prescribing.aspx

• Naloxone prescribing: https://www.oregon.gov/pharmacy/Pages/Naloxone-Prescribing.aspx

• Emergency insulin: https://www.oregon.gov/pharmacy/Pages/Emergency-Insulin-Refill-Prescribing-.aspx

• Travel, etc.: https://www.oregon.gov/pharmacy/Pages/PFAC.aspx
State Perspective: Utah
Senator Evan Vickers
District 28
Q&A

Please type your questions into the chat box and we will get to as many as we can!
RESOURCES

- **NCSL Blog:** [Prescription for Administering a COVID-19 Vaccine: Pharmacists Fill the Gaps](#)
- **NCSL Website:** [Scope of Practice Policy](#)
- **National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations Webpage:** [Pharmacist Immunization Authority](#)
- **National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations Webpage:** [COVID-19: Vaccines](#)
- **Oregon Board of Pharmacy:** [Prescribing Resources](#)
- **Utah Board of Pharmacy:** [Resources](#)
UPCOMING WEBINARS

Please feel free to register and join us for the following webinars as NCSL continues its webinar series on public health issues. We hope to see you (virtually!) in the coming months.

- **NCSL Public Health Webinar Series:**
  - Dec. 11 | State Planning for Distribution and Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine
  - Dec. 14 | Suicide Prevention: A National Lifeline for States
  - Dec. 17 | State Strategies to Address Adverse Childhood Experiences
  - Dec. 18 | Saving Moms: Strategies to Reduce Maternal Mortality in the U.S.
  - Jan. 6 | Policies and Strategies to Address Infectious Diseases
  - Jan. 8 | Welcome to the Legislature: What You Need to Know About Public Health
  - Jan. 15 | Connection of Public Health and Behavioral Health
THANK YOU!

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