

Research supports pharmacists' growing role in immunization.



Most Americans prefer to get vaccines at the pharmacy.

According to the PrescribeWellness 2017 Vaccination and Preventive Care Survey, 62% of respondents chose their pharmacy over their other settings, mostly due to convenience. As many as 26% stated their pharmacy is a "one-stop shop" for many health and wellness needs. Another 24% said it was easier to get to than the doctor's office.



Parents trust pharmacists for immunizations.

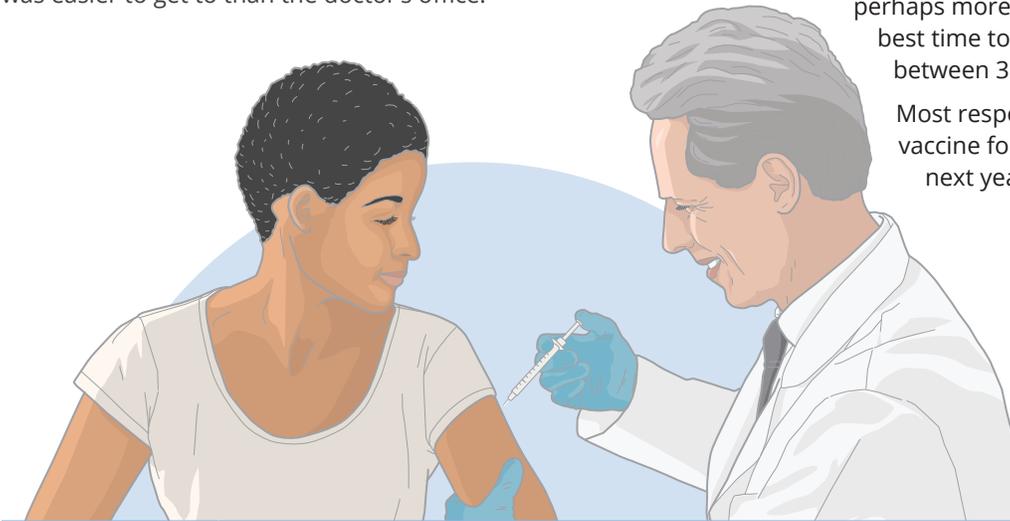
A study revealed that parents "felt confident about the pharmacist as a vaccine provider, supporting the idea that pharmacists can be important advocates for immunization for adults and their children."¹

Convenience was also a big factor for parents, perhaps more than other traditional options. The best time to vaccinate their kids was after school, between 3:05 and 6:00 p.m.²

Most responding parents would obtain a flu vaccine for their child from a pharmacist next year.³

62%

survey respondents chose pharmacy over other settings



Pharmacists can increase overall vaccine rates for adolescents.

The current healthcare system does not adequately meet the vaccination needs of America's adolescents. But overall vaccine rates could improve by complementing the efforts of primary care physicians with pharmacists.⁴



Pharmacists can help vaccinate people who don't routinely visit their doctor.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that people who hadn't been to the doctor for a routine checkup in more than a year were more likely to receive vaccinations in a pharmacy than those who had been more recently (53.5% vs 38.8%).⁵



¹ Deshpande M, Schauer J, Mott DA, Young HN, Corey P. Parents' perceptions of pharmacists as providers of influenza vaccine to children. *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*. 2013;53(5): 488-495.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Schaffer, S., Fontanesi, J., Rickert, D., Grabenstein, J., Rothholz, M., Wang, S., et al. (2008). How Effectively Can Health Care Settings Beyond the Traditional Medical Home Provide Vaccines to Adolescents?, *Pediatrics* (Vol. 121, pp. 535-545).

⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Place of influenza vaccination among adults—United States, 2010-11 influenza season. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. 2011;60(23):781-785.

The convenience of community pharmacies is increasing vaccination rates for all ages.



Pharmacy hours are better for working adults.

Study results reveal that many adults, particularly younger, healthier, and working-aged (18-49 years), receive a variety of vaccines at the pharmacy during evening, weekend, and holiday hours, when most doctors' offices are closed. With the low rates of adult and adolescent vaccination in the

U.S., community pharmacies are creating new opportunities to expand access and convenience to vaccines,⁶ and potentially improve productivity among working adults.

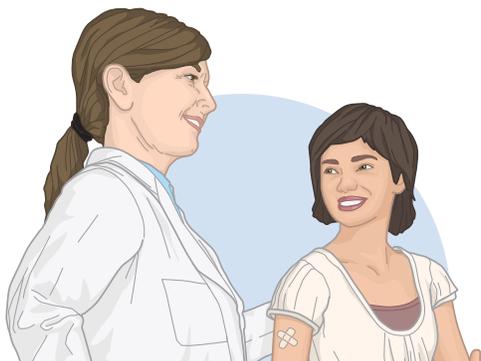


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Pharmacists can help immunize the medically underserved.

Evidence in the medical literature suggests that pharmacies have the capacity to influence previously difficult-to-reach populations, including the medically underserved.⁷



As immunizers, pharmacists have increased overall vaccination rates.

A national study found that states that allowed pharmacists to immunize older adults had higher rates of vaccination than states that did not. The study suggests that pharmacists were actually identifying new, previously unvaccinated populations for immunization.⁸



Most primary care physicians don't stock all CDC-recommended vaccines.

A survey indicated that only 20% to 30% of internists and family physicians stocked all vaccines recommended by CDC, with nearly 80% not planning to increase their offerings and 2% planning to stop carrying them altogether.⁹

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Steyer TE, Ragucci KR, Pearson WS, Mainous AG 3rd. The role of pharmacists in the delivery of influenza vaccinations. *Vaccine*. 2004;22(8): 1001-1006.

⁹ Freed GL, Clark SJ, Cowan AE, Coleman MS. Primary care physician perspectives on providing adult vaccines. *Vaccine*. 2011;29(9): 1850-1854.



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