

**American Disease Prevention Coalition Urges State Policymakers to
Eliminate Restrictions on Pharmacists' Authority to Administer Adult Vaccines**
A growing number of states have expanded pharmacists' authority to administer vaccines

Pharmacists continue to play a lifesaving role in our nation's rollout of COVID-19 vaccines from the moment it became available as a local and convenient patient choice. As those efforts continue, the American Disease Prevention Coalition urges all states to update their laws to ensure that pharmacists, pharmacy interns and qualified pharmacy technicians are permitted to administer all recommended vaccines to ensure people's long-term health and well-being.

More than 60 percent of the 165 million Americans fully vaccinated against COVID-19 have been vaccinated by pharmacists, with more than 40 percent of pharmacist-administered doses given to people of color, who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. As vaccination rates slow overall, pharmacies are stepping up with pop-up clinics and mobile clinics to make it even easier for people to get vaccinated, particularly for rural populations, and those who have disabilities or challenging child care schedules.

Given the critical role that local pharmacists have played on the vaccination frontlines, a growing number of states have expanded pharmacists' authority to administer all recommended vaccines:

- Florida enacted SB 768, which authorizes pharmacists to administer all vaccines licensed for use in the U.S.; those authorized for emergency use by the FDA (as of April 30, 2021) to adults under a protocol; and flu vaccines to individuals 7 years of age and older under a protocol.
- Georgia enacted SB 46, which authorizes pharmacists to administer all vaccines on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) adult immunization schedules to individuals 18 and older.
- Illinois enacted SB 2017, which authorizes pharmacists to administer an expanded list of vaccines to individuals 7 years old and older via prescription or standing order that are listed on the CDC Recommended Immunization Schedule, CDC's Health Information for International Travel, or FDA Vaccines Licensed and Authorized for Use in the United States.

Expanding the ability of pharmacists and qualified pharmacy technicians to administer routine vaccinations will save lives and reduce healthcare costs. One of the major consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic is that both children and adults have fallen even further behind on receiving routine vaccinations, including an estimated 26 million missed shots in 2020 alone. Pharmacists should be a go-to source for vaccinations during periods of both crisis and calm, and that should be a key priority for every state as we work to fix the gaping holes in our nation's healthcare system coming out of the pandemic.

About the American Disease Prevention Coalition

The American Disease Prevention Coalition advocates for state legislation that enables pharmacists to administer adult immunizations recommended by the CDC within Recommended Immunization Schedules; immunizations or vaccines recommended in the CDC's Health Information for International Travel; and those approved or authorized by the United States FDA for Use in the United States—under pharmacist's own authority, similar to how other vaccine providers initiate and administer vaccines. Find us at www.vaccinesshouldntwait.org and Twitter: @ADPCVaccines.