

BACKGROUND

- In Illinois a pharmacist’s ability to vaccinate has become broader over the last 2 decades.^{1,2}
 - Important years: 2013, 2020, 2023, 2025, 2029
- Pharmacist rights to vaccinate increased drastically during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.¹
- Pharmacists currently have the ability to vaccinate individuals as young as 5 through 2029 per a statewide standing order.^{2,3}
- Previous studies have shown that pharmacists performing chart review and suggesting vaccines for patients can see a modest impact on vaccine adherence and administration for patients.^{4,5}
- This study aims to find the true impact of pharmacists and solidify the effect that recent increases in pharmacy vaccinations has had on community health.

METHODS

- The study was performed by administering a survey to patients at a community pharmacy in Illinois who were either inquiring about or receiving a vaccine.
- The study was performed during a 31 day period from December 1st-31st, 2025
- Both physical surveys and an online survey were available for patients.
- Data was collected and kept in a secure location without personal identifiers for anonymity.
- Patients were excluded if they were unsure about their vaccine history, unwilling to disclose vaccine habits, or did not encounter the pharmacy for vaccine purposes.
- Patients were required to give consent and had the right to withdraw consent at any time.

RESULTS

		18–24 (n=3)	25–35 (n=6)	36–45 (n=6)	46–60 (n=17)	≥60 (n=62)
How often do you get your flu vaccination?	Every year	1 (33.3%)	3 (50.0%)	2 (33.3%)	5 (29.4%)	25 (40.3%)
	Most years	1 (33.3%)	2 (33.3%)	1 (16.7%)	5 (29.4%)	30 (48.4%)
	Rarely	1 (33.3%)	1 (16.7%)	2 (33.3%)	6 (35.3%)	6 (9.7%)
	Never	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	1 (5.9%)	1 (1.6%)
Do you get recommended vaccines as scheduled?	Yes	3 (100.0%)	2 (33.3%)	3 (50.0%)	10 (58.8%)	42 (67.7%)
	No	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	2 (33.3%)	3 (17.6%)	5 (8.1%)
	Unsure	0 (0.0%)	3 (50.0%)	1 (16.7%)	4 (23.5%)	15 (24.2%)
What prompts you to get vaccinated?	Doctor’s referral	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	6 (35.3%)	23 (37.7%)
	Pharmacy advertisement	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	4 (23.5%)	22 (36.1%)
	Family/friend recommendation	0 (0.0%)	3 (50.0%)	4 (66.7%)	4 (23.5%)	9 (14.8%)
Where do you typically get your vaccinations?	TV and radio	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (5.9%)	7 (11.5%)
	Other (work/school/etc.)	3 (100.0%)	2 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (11.8%)	1 (1.6%)
	Pharmacy	3 (100.0%)	5 (83.3%)	5 (83.3%)	13 (76.5%)	52 (83.9%)
What about coming to the pharmacy for vaccinations makes it better or more convenient?	Doctor’s office	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	1 (16.7%)	2 (11.8%)	8 (12.9%)
	Health department	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (11.8%)	2 (3.2%)
	Health Fair	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
	Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
How likely are you to return to the pharmacy or recommend the pharmacy to loved ones or friends for vaccination?	Easily accessible	1 (33.3%)	2 (33.3%)	3 (75.0%)	3 (17.6%)	18 (43.9%)
	Convenient hours	1 (33.3%)	2 (33.3%)	1 (25.0%)	4 (23.5%)	11 (26.8%)
	Walk-ins welcome	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (25.0%)	4 (23.5%)	12 (29.3%)
	More individualized care experience	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (11.8%)	11 (26.8%)
How likely are you to return to the pharmacy or recommend the pharmacy to loved ones or friends for vaccination?	Very likely	2 (66.7%)	3 (50.0%)	4 (66.7%)	12 (70.6%)	22 (35.5%)
	Likely	1 (33.3%)	1 (16.7%)	2 (33.3%)	4 (23.5%)	31 (50.0%)
	Somewhat likely	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	8 (12.9%)
	Unlikely	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (5.9%)	1 (1.6%)

CONCLUSION

- This survey helped conclude that patients are possibly using the pharmacy for vaccines at a higher rate than in the past.
- Another conclusion reached is that patients are having an overall positive experience at the pharmacy and are likely to return or suggest other patients use this pharmacy service showing the true impact pharmacists can have on patient care.
- Future research would be helpful to further extrapolate this data to a larger portion of the population to solidify the true effect of pharmacy lead immunizations.
- Our hope is that this research can lead to even broader pharmacist responsibilities when it comes to immunization such as individualized prescribing power or increased patient pool moving further into the pediatric space.

REFERENCES

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