

SNAPSHOT OF SUCCESS



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS
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Wisconsin Pharmacists Provide Medication Therapy Management Services

Public Health Issue

- Hypertension is a major risk factor for cardiovascular disease, the leading cause of death and disability in Wisconsin.
- Approximately 1.3 million adults in Wisconsin have hypertension and less than half of them have their blood pressure under control.
- Medication helps people control their blood pressure yet only two in five persons in Wisconsin take their hypertension medications as prescribed.
- Team-based care that includes pharmacists specializing in medication therapy management as integral members of the care team is an effective strategy to address barriers to medication adherence.

Program Action

- The Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Chronic Disease Prevention Program partners with the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin (PSW) and its initiative, the Wisconsin Pharmacy Quality Collaborative (WPQC). The WPQC seeks to expand team-based care that includes pharmacists to improve [medication adherence](#) and engage patients in managing their medications and medication plans.
- WPQC is a network of community pharmacies with certified pharmacists who work in community and clinic settings. The pharmacists are certified to provide medication therapy management (MTM) services to patients. Since 2012 the MTM benefit has reimbursed pharmacists for a variety of services designed to assist members/patients in effectively managing their medications with a goal to improve members'/patients' health in a cost-effective manner.
- PSW/WPQC has 783 pharmacists, 175 technicians, 177 students certified; 275 pharmacies are accredited.
- Clinical and community-based pharmacists are helping patients meet their blood pressure goals by measuring patients' blood pressure at the pharmacy and teaching patients how to accurately monitor their blood pressure at home with the overall goal to improve health outcomes.
- Benefits of the PSW/WPQC are:
 - Improved medication use and adherence among participating patients
 - Improved patient safety (identification and resolution of drug-related problems)
 - Decreased hospital readmissions
 - Increased partnership between pharmacists and physicians to improve quality and attain desired performance metrics
 - Reduced health care costs for participating patients and payers

Impact

- Since 2012, 126,519 total Level I/Level II MTM services have been provided: 120,872 Level I (intervention-based) services and 5647 Level II (consultative review of overall drug regimen) services.
- The Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin is a key partner with the Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Chronic Disease Prevention Unit work focusing on the Million Hearts Wisconsin and national initiatives, interprofessional education, team-based care, patient self-monitoring of blood pressure, and MTM services medication adherence claims data.
- In a Wisconsin Medicaid analysis (2012 through June 2016) MTM services successfully converted prescriptions from 30 day prescriptions to 90 day prescriptions at 1.5 times the rate of a control group which may result in increased medication adherence rates.
- Evaluation showed a short term increase in Medicaid members' pharmacy costs. Inpatient hospital costs for MTM recipients were lower on average in the year after the intervention.

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