

PHARMACIST WORKFORCE PRESENTATION

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CURRENT PHARMACIST WORKFORCE DATA

- 3182 Licensed Pharmacists with “Active” license living in Arkansas
- 48% Female(1539) / 52% Male(1643)
- 180 New Arkansas Pharm.D. graduates annually (120 UAMS/60 Harding)
- 2 – Minimum number of “Active” licensed pharmacists in every Arkansas county
- 897.6 – Number of Arkansans per actively licensed pharmacist

PHARMACY LOCATION DATA

- 750 Retail Pharmacy locations in Arkansas
- 1 – Number of counties without a retail pharmacy (Cleveland)
- The 8 smallest counties (based on population) all have at least one retail pharmacy
- 3807.2 – Number of Arkansans per retail pharmacy

PHARMACIST EDUCATION

- Undergraduate studies (minimum of 80+ hours), vast majority have undergraduate degrees
- Professional school (4 year program – leading to Doctor of Pharmacy degree)
- Many new graduates now complete post-graduate residency experiences

SAMPLE OF TOP OF LICENSE CAPABILITIES

- Chronic disease management
- Primary care screenings & triage
- Conduct lab screening & clinical analysis
- Wellness screenings
- Continuity of care follow-up
- Medication optimization
- Patient education programs & coaching
- Caregiver education programs
- Medication adherence programs
- Administration of immunizations & other medications
- Medication therapy management
- Formulary compliance

CURRENT PLACE IN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

- Distributive role of prescription medications
- Limited MTM – primarily Medicare Part D patients
- Immunization services – a growing area

RECOMMENDATIONS

- System wide recognition of the training, capabilities, and location of pharmacists in Arkansas
- Close the gap between current place in the healthcare delivery system and pharmacist's "top of license" capabilities
- Educate physician and pharmacists about protocol capabilities that exist within the current scope of practice
- Work to have pharmacists recognized as "practitioner" not just "supplier" in federal and state statute to create reimbursement model for cognitive services