

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Team Members to present research results of ‘Pharmacist Provision of Preconception Care Through Medication Therapy Management’ study at MHPA and APHA conferences

ADA, Ohio — A research team lead by Natalie DiPietro Mager, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Ohio Northern University and David Bright, Associate Professor of Pharmacy at Ferris State University, will present their findings at the Medicaid Health Plans of America (MHPA) and American Public Health Association (APHA) conferences this fall.

The focus of the team research is “Pharmacist Provision of Preconception Care Through Medication Therapy Management (MTM).” Team members include Natalie DiPietro Mager, David Bright, Dani Markus and Lindsey Weis of OutcomesMTM, a Cardinal Health company, and David Hartzell and Jim Gartner of CareSource.

David Hartzell and David Bright will present on behalf of the team at the MHPA Conference Oct. 29-31 in Washington, D.C. in a panel session titled “Using Pharmacists to Improve Health Outcomes: A Case Study in Maternal and Infant Health” that will address MTM and the team’s preconception care project as part of the Innovation track at the conference. For details, visit <http://www.medicaidconference.com/>.

Natalie DiPietro Mager and Lindsey Weis will present on behalf of the team at the APHA Conference Nov. 4-8 in Atlanta. The team will orally present “Development, Implementation and Assessment of a Pharmacist-Provided Preconception Care Initiative” as part of a session organized by the Pharmacy Special Primary Interest Group of APHA titled “Pharmacists Serving Vulnerable Populations”. For details, visit <http://apha2017.org/>.

The project, which was initially funded by the Community Pharmacy Foundation, supported collaborative work between the four organizations, resulting in a novel program where over 2,000 community pharmacists across Ohio delivered over 30,000 preconception care counseling interventions to women of childbearing age. The Community Pharmacy Foundation is also supporting the research through travel grants.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there is a great need for delivery of preconception health services in the United States. Community pharmacists are well-qualified and well-positioned to assist in this public health priority. This was the first project to demonstrate pharmacists provision of preconception care services through an MTM framework.

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