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COMMUNITY PHARMACY FOUNDATION COMPLETED GRANT SYNOPSIS

Implementation and Evaluation of a Travel Medicine Clinic Located Within a Community Pharmacy

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Objectives

- 1) To analyze patient and clinic demographics as well as the travel-related vaccines and medications recommended and administered to patients
- 2) To determine pharmacist performance and patient satisfaction of this clinic

Methods

Design	To evaluate the progress of this clinic, a retrospective review of patient records from July 2007 to March 2010 was performed. Patient and clinic demographics such as age, gender, appointment status, and destination of travel were analyzed. All recommended and administered travel-related vaccines and medications were reviewed to determine patient acceptance rates towards pharmacist-made recommendations. To help measure pharmacist performance and patient satisfaction, a survey was distributed to patients and was subsequently analyzed.
Study endpoints	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patient and clinic demographics• Travel-related vaccines and medications recommended and administered to patients• Pharmacist performance and patient satisfaction

Results

From July 2007 to March 2010, 98% of individuals that had made an appointment in the travel health clinic kept their scheduled appointment and 495 patients were seen in this clinic during the study period. Destinations most commonly reported by patients included South America and Africa. Overall, patient acceptance of pharmacist-made travel recommendations was 84%. Acceptance rates to the hepatitis A vaccine was 75%, IM and PO typhoid fever vaccines 78%, yellow fever vaccine 93%, and antimalarial prophylaxis 93%. The most commonly ordered antimalarial medication was Malarone® (n=209). Among those completing the patient satisfaction survey, 96% were satisfied with their overall visit.

Conclusion

Community pharmacies are easily accessible by the public making them logical establishments to help educate patients about travel-related disease risks and to provide vaccinations and medications necessary for travel. The high rate of patient acceptance and satisfaction with this clinic supports adoption of pharmacists as non-traditional providers of travel health services.

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