**Pharmacist Provision of Preconception Care Through Medication Therapy Management**

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### Objectives

1) To develop an ACPE-accredited continuing education program to educate community pharmacists on how to address preconception care needs in patients through medication therapy management (MTM).

2) To demonstrate the ability of a statewide network of community pharmacists to provide preconception care services through the MTM framework.

### Methods

**Design**

- A free, online, written ACPE-accredited continuing education program was developed and disseminated to community pharmacists.
- Targeted medication reviews (TMRs) were created to address three elements of preconception care for women aged 15-45 years enrolled in a non-profit managed care company: medications that may cause fetal harm (formerly FDA pregnancy category D/X), folic acid use, and immunizations.
- TMRs were generated and released to the individual pharmacy where that patient had prescriptions filled.
- Any practicing pharmacist in Ohio with a patient in the sample received a TMR notification.
- The pharmacists documented and billed for the service through a commercially-available platform.
- A successful intervention was defined as the pharmacist being able to contact the patient to provide education as described by the TMR notification.
- The project was IRB-approved.

**Study endpoints**

- The number of TMRs that were completed by the pharmacist.
- The number of TMRs that were successful.
- Future research utilizing longer-term claims data will examine the outcomes of the pharmacists’ interventions, namely the number of women who switched from a former category D or X medication to a medication that poses less fetal risk; the number of women who received a prescription for folic acid; the number of women who received an immunization for hepatitis B and/or MMR; and the number of women who initiated contraception or switched to a more effective form of contraception.

### Results

- The project lasted 19 weeks.
- In that time, 1149 community pharmacists in 818 different pharmacies across Ohio completed a TMR.
- A total of 6602 TMRs were completed.
- Of those, 4266 (65%) were successful.

### Conclusion

Establishing new MTM services focused on preconception care resulted in rapid integration with existing MTM processes in hundreds of pharmacies across Ohio. These results may provide justification for additional payers.
to reimburse for similar MTM services. Through demonstrating the impact on preconception care, the role of the community pharmacist may continue to expand to include provision of additional preventive care services following the model developed in this initiative.