

Pharmacist Authority to Provide Hepatitis Prevention and Treatment Services

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Accessibility of Pharmacies

- 90% of Americans live within 5 miles of a pharmacy
- Extended hours, some up to 24 hours a day
- Can receive care without an appointment
- Can provide referrals and linkage to mainstream healthcare

Scope of Research

- **AIM:** Emphasize vital role community pharmacies play in preventing hepatitis transmissions and providing hepatitis treatment services
- **METHOD:** Assess legal authority for pharmacists to provide hepatitis prevention and treatment services in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- **RESEARCHED PHARMACISTS' ABILITY TO:**
 - I. Administer HAV and HBV vaccinations
 - II. Conduct rapid HCV tests
 - III. Be reimbursed for the provision of clinical services
 - IV. Provide HCV direct-acting antiviral medications without prior authorization requirements
 - V. Participate in collaborative practice agreements (CPAs) – especially pharmacists' authority to order and interpret laboratory tests under CPAs

Administering HAV & HBV Vaccinations

- **100%** of jurisdictions authorize pharmacists to administer HAV and HBV vaccines
- **40.4%** of jurisdictions authorize pharmacists to administer HAV and HBV ***without a prescription***



Conducting Rapid HCV Tests



CLIA-waived HCV tests:

Rapid HCV Antibody Test

Rapid HCV RNA Test



**Only 23% of jurisdictions permit
pharmacists to conduct rapid HCV
tests**

Reimbursement for Clinical Services



Pharmacists not federally defined as “providers”



52% of jurisdictions require Medicaid to reimburse pharmacists for clinical services



Prior Authorization for DAAs

48% of jurisdictions require prior authorization for HCV direct-acting antiviral medications under Medicaid

Participating in CPAs



- Purpose of CPAs:
 - Establish formal relationship between PCP and pharmacist
 - Broaden pharmacist's scope of practice through PCP's collaboration
 - Define patient care services pharmacist may provide under certain situations and conditions
 - Delegate to pharmacist patient care service(s) within PCP's scope of practice
- May be patient-specific or non-patient specific, as dictated by statute or regulation
- **94%** of jurisdictions authorize pharmacists to order laboratory tests under a CPA
 - **61.5%** of jurisdictions authorize pharmacists to interpret laboratory test results under a CPA

Upcoming Resource: Issue Brief

Pharmacist Authority to Provide Viral Hepatitis Prevention, Testing, and Treatment Services

- Outlines legal authority for pharmacists to provide hepatitis prevention and treatment services in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- Expands upon issues impacting pharmacists' ability to provide these services and recommends best practices for addressing barriers

[Table 1. Authority to Administer Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B Vaccines⁴](#)

State	Authority	Can pharmacists administer HAV and HBV vaccines?	Can pharmacists administer HAV and HBV vaccines without a prescription from a primary care provider (PCP)?	Are there patient age requirements?
Alabama	Code of Ala. § 34-23-1; Ala. Admin. Code 680-X-2-.14.	Yes	No	No

[Table 2. Authority to Perform Tests including Rapid Hepatitis C Tests⁵](#)

State	Authority	Can pharmacists perform rapid HCV tests?	Limitations to Performing Tests or Requirements for Pharmacists
Alabama	CLIA-Waived Tests: AL Provider Standards	Yes	Pharmacy must submit the CMS 116 Form and apply for approval by the Alabama Department of Public Health.