



Implementation of Antiviral Medication Strategies for an Influenza Pandemic

Role of Pharmacies

December 4, 2007

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Community Pharmacy Infrastructure - 2006

- i >56,000 pharmacies nationwide
 - | Traditional chain and independent
 - | Supermarket
 - | Mass merchant
- i >151,000 community pharmacist positions
- i >160,000 pharmacy technicians
- i 3.3 billion prescriptions filled

Source: IMS Health, 2006 & Bureau of Census, 2006



Pharmacist Role - Commitment to Partnering for an Influenza Pandemic

- i Patient screening
- i Administration of vaccines
 - | RPh administered 2.77 million flu vaccinations 2006
- i Dispensing of anti-virals/medications
 - | Who makes decision to dispense?
- i Education of public with approved messages/materials
 - | CDC, FEMA, Medical Reserve Corps, American Red Cross
- i Organized Intelligence
 - | Monitor influenza-like illness in patients visiting pharmacy
 - | Purchases of OTC products



Pharmacist Practice Role during Pandemic

- i Serve current patients
- i Serve as care center/extension for public health
- i Pharmacists, student pharmacists, residents, pharmacy technicians available to work public health dept
 - i 40% of workforce may be out during pandemic*

* Gellin B, HHS National Vaccine Program Office, April 2006



Protecting Patients & Staff – Pharmacist Role

- i Establish plan for implementing respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette
- i Distribute masks to symptomatic patients, facial tissues and receptacles for their disposal in waiting areas
- i Prophylactic treatments

Source: Center for Disease Control



Pandemic Flu Pharmacy Checklist

One-Stop Shopping

- i **Supplies for Immunizations**
- i **Miscellaneous supplies**
 - | Masks, thermometers, vaporizers, biohazard waste containers, HEPA air purifiers, goggles
- i **Other consumables**
 - | Bottled water, electrolyte solutions, hand sanitizers, bleach, rubbing alcohol, air disinfectants, tissues, antibacterial soap
- i **Drugs**
 - | Anti-virals, aspirin, APAP, NSAIDs, decongestants, antihistamines, glucose tabs, inhalers



Medication/Vaccine Supply & Distribution – Pharmacist Role

- i Discourage personal stockpiling
- i Identify commonly used Rx medications and stock appropriate levels
 - | Baseline levels for in-stock
 - | Additional quantities
- i Contingency plans with wholesalers and drug manufacturers
 - | Where will the medication come from?
 - | Maintaining access to routine medication supplies
- i Drug seizure concerns



Source: A Pharmacist's Guide to Pandemic Preparedness, 2007 (APhA, ASHP, NACDS)



Rx Response -

Rx Response is an information-sharing forum comprised of pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors, pharmacies, hospitals, disaster relief agencies and state/federal government agencies. The program engages during a severe natural disaster, large scale terrorist attack or a pandemic that disrupts the normal supply of medicines

- i Communication and collaboration between a broad cross-section of private and public sector parties
 - | American Red Cross, pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacies, hospitals****
- i Ensure continued access to essential medicines and avoid disruptions
 - | Maintain integrity of pharmaceutical product supply system**
 - | Treatment of pandemic influenza**
 - | Essential day-to-day medicines for duration of emergency****
- i Health emergencies of national significance**

Source: Healthcare Distribution Management Association



Rx Response Core Principles

- i **Collaboration**
- i **Continuation of Normal Business Functions to Maximum Extent Possible**
- i **Utilization of Individual Partner Expertise**
- i **Simplicity**
- i **Focus**



Summary

- i **Retail's Advantageous Position**
 - l **Retail locations**
 - i Accessibility
 - i Convenience / one-stop
 - l **Current system for distribution and stockpiling**
 - i Warehousing capabilities
 - i Company Owned Distribution Centers
 - l **Well-trained pharmacists**
 - i Many already identified in states/counties as primary response partners.