

**1 PHARMACIES HELP PATIENTS USE MEDICINES SAFELY AND STAY HEALTHY.**

Pharmacies are best known for their commitment to medication safety and effectiveness: providing accurate prescriptions, helping patients take medications as prescribed and safely, and sharing knowledge on drug topics.

**2 INNOVATIVE PHARMACY SERVICES DO EVEN MORE TO IMPROVE PATIENT HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE.**

Increasingly, pharmacies provide vaccinations, health education, and disease state testing and management. Through personal interactions with patients, face-to-face consultations and convenient access to preventive care services, pharmacies are helping to shape the healthcare delivery system of tomorrow – in partnership with doctors, nurses and others.

**COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS LIVE, WORK AND SERVE PATIENTS IN EVERY STATE AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT - INCLUDING YOURS**



Average distance = 1.6 miles within region based around urban center

Average distance = 5.6 miles outside region based around urban center



Nearly all Americans (91%) live within five miles of a community pharmacy. (NCPDP Pharmacy File, ArcGIS Census Tract File. NACDS Economics Department)

**3 WIDELY TRUSTED AND ACCESSIBLE, PHARMACISTS ARE EXTREMELY VALUED BY THOSE IN GREATEST NEED.**

Pharmacists rank consistently among the most trusted professionals, and among the most approachable and accessible in healthcare. People who take prescription medications regularly, manage chronic diseases, use emerging pharmacy services, and who are older have even stronger positive opinions about pharmacies. Particularly in rural and under-served areas, the appreciation for pharmacists proves particularly strong.

**4 PHARMACY SERVICES IMPROVE HEALTHCARE AFFORDABILITY.**

From helping patients take their medications effectively and safely to providing preventive services, pharmacies help keep people healthier. That prevents costly forms of care down the line. Pharmacists also help patients identify strategies to save money, such as understanding their pharmacy benefits, using generic drugs and obtaining 90-day supplies of prescription drugs in retail pharmacies.

**ABOUT NACDS**

NACDS represents traditional drug stores and supermarkets and mass merchants with pharmacies. Chains operate 40,000 pharmacies, and NACDS' more than 100 chain member companies include regional chains, with a minimum of four stores, and national companies. Chains employ more than 3.2 million individuals, including 178,000 pharmacists. They fill over 3 billion prescriptions yearly, and help patients use medicines correctly and safely, while offering innovative services that improve patient health and healthcare affordability. NACDS members also include more than 850 supplier partners and 60 international members representing 21 countries. Please visit [nacds.org](http://nacds.org).