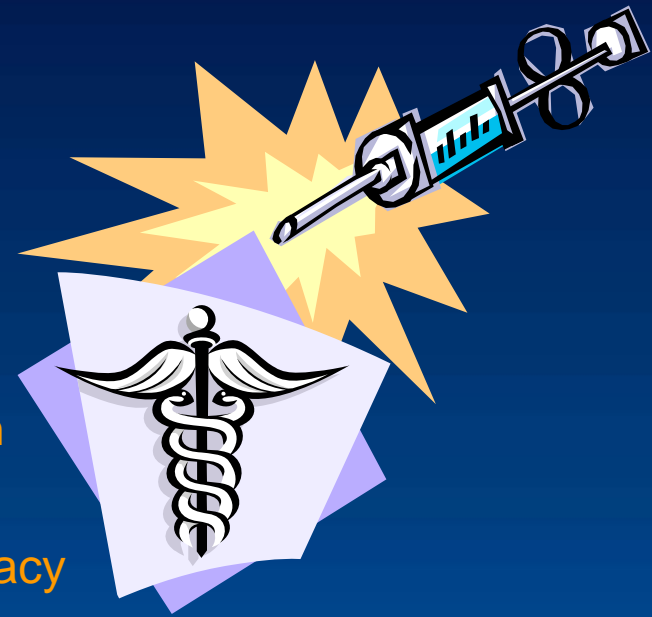


# Chain Pharmacy Immunization Delivery: Results of a Statewide Survey

**Tammy Pilisuk, MPH**  
Unit Chief, Provider Education  
Immunization Branch  
California Department of Public Health

**Jeffery A. Goad, Pharm.D., MPH**  
Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy  
University of Southern California



# Trends

- It's been said that the equivalent of the entire US population walks into a pharmacy every week (PAIC, 2006)
- 46 states have laws permitting pharmacist IZ practice (IAC, 2007)



# The IZ Market is Changing

- ✓ Food
- ✓ OTC products
- ✓ Prescriptions
- ✓ Vaccinations!



# CA Survey Objectives

- How many chains/locations offer IZs?
- What ages?
- Which vaccines (beyond flu)?
- Magnitude of pharmacy vaccines?
- How are they trained?
- What are IZ practice protocols?
- Do they want more IZ/vaccine info?
- Are they interested in collaboration with public health community?



# Survey Methods

- **Instrument developed by a team**
- **One-on-one phone interviews**
  - State-level IZ Coordinators at 8 CA chain pharmacies
  - Conducted during September 2007
- **Quantitative follow-up mailed-back survey**
  - Locations (vaccinating and non-vaccinating)
  - Quantity of vaccines given in 2006
  - Protocols, consent forms, VARs



# Results: Magnitude of Services

- **7 of 8 chains were already giving immunizations**
  - 1 was to began in Fall 2007
- **538 pharmacy locations and almost 1,000 pharmacists trained across CA**
  - ~ 5,000 pharmacies in CA
- **Shots given year round (except influenza)**
- **Vaccines are given by appointments and walk-in**



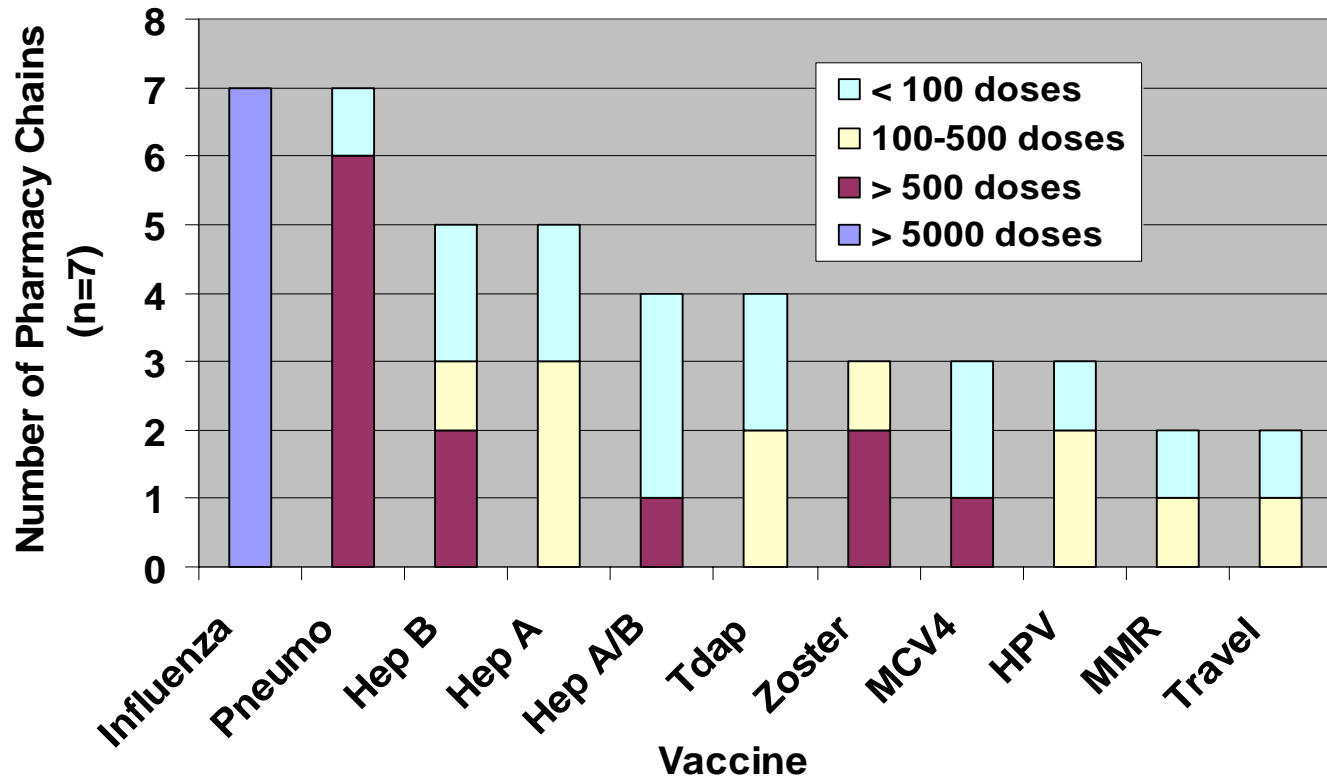
# Results: Magnitude of Services

- **7 of 8 chains were already giving immunizations**
  - 1 was to began in Fall 2007
- **538 pharmacy locations and almost 1,000 pharmacists participate across CA**
  - 5,800+ pharmacies in CA
  - Distributed in 1,100+ ZIP codes
  - 20,000+ pharmacists
- **Shots given year round (except influenza)**
- **Vaccines are given by appointments and walk-in**



# Which Vaccines are Given?

Estimated Annual Vaccine Doses  
Delivered by CA Pharmacy Chains<sup>1</sup>





# Who's Served?

- **Age**
  - Adults for all chains
  - Minimum age varied from 9 to 18 yrs
- **Compensation**
  - All charge the patient directly
  - Most bill Medicare Part B and D when appropriate
  - 5 bill Medi-Cal (FFS only)
  - 3 bill health insurance (FFS only)



# Pharmacist Training

- All pharmacist vaccinators get APhA's IZ certificate training
- All required to have current Basic Life Support certification
- All required to undergo annual BBP training
- Continuing education
  - BOP requires 30 CEUs every 2 years (not IZ specific)
  - 6 of 8 chains provide in-house CE or inform pharmacists of upcoming opportunities



# IZ Practice Procedures

- **The following were standard practice:**
  - give out VIS
  - report to VAERS
  - Protocol for vaccines and epinephrine
  - Screening forms
  - Vaccine administration records
  - Consent forms
  - Update pt personal record, give new one, or give detailed receipt
- **Offer free/discounted flu shots to staff pharmacists**



# Sharing IZ Records

**Policies to share IZ record with patient's PCP (n=8):**

- **Fax (4/8)**
- **Send a letter (2/8)**
- **Phone (1/8)**
- **Ask patient to update PCP (1/8)**



# Collaboration Opportunities

**All were interested in future collaboration with the State Immunization Branch**

- **Would distribute IZ info at pharmacy (6/8)**
- **Partner for mass vaccination clinics (6/8)**
- **Collaborate on public awareness projects (5/8)**
- **Would join the registry if available (5/8)**
- **Improve communication with the medical community (4/8)**



# Limitations

- **Does not represent all pharmacy entities**
  - Independents and mass merchandisers were not surveyed
- **Quantity of vaccines given was categorized instead of continuous**
- **Unknown how many of the IZ trained pharmacists are giving vaccines**



# Next Steps...

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- 1. Establish a communication system to share IZ information with chain pharmacies**
- 2. Identify training needs and training resources**
- 3. Explore options for pharmacist-medical home IZ record sharing (promote best practices)**
- 4. Build partnerships between pharmacists & public health**



# Summary & Conclusions

- Chain pharmacies part of IZ delivery
- Mostly adults; some serve adolescents & preteens
- Vaccine market share still low
- Training requirements defined
- Protocols in place: issues identified
- Chains interested in collaboration possibilities = future opportunity





# Contact Us

- **Tammy Pilisuk, MPH**  
Unit Chief, Provider Education  
California Dept of Public Health, Immunization Branch  
**Tammy.Pilisuk@cdph.ca.gov**
- **Dr. Jeffery A. Goad, Pharm.D., MPH, FCPHA, FCSHP,**  
Assoc. Professor of Clinical Pharmacy  
Univ. Southern California, School of Pharmacy  
**goad@usc.edu**

