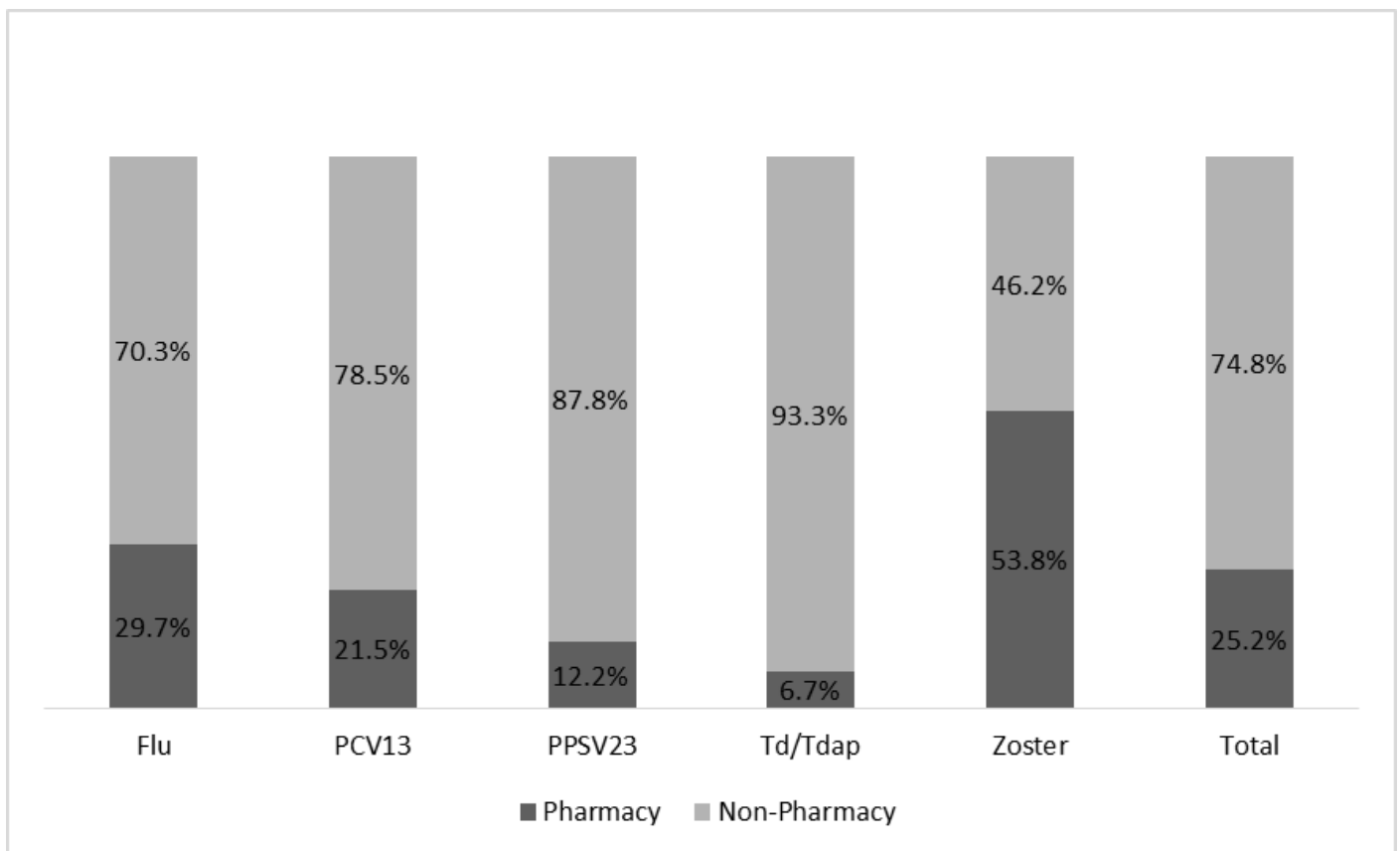


Pharmacies continue to play an important role in protecting Michigan residents against vaccine-preventable diseases. Pharmacies are a key member of the immunization neighborhood, with the unique ability to reach patients through more convenient access and hours of operation. Among the 25 different provider types that report to the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), Michigan pharmacies reported a quarter of adult vaccines (Figure 1). Pharmacies provided over half of the zoster (53.8%) vaccination doses and almost a third of the flu (29.7%) vaccination doses (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Percentage of adult vaccination doses reported to the MCIR by pharmacy and non-pharmacy sites, July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017



Over 1,400 independent, small and large chain pharmacies reported adult immunization doses to the MCIR from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017. Timely and complete reporting to the MCIR helps provide accurate and uniform immunization records for all of the patient’s caregivers, regardless of where the patient seeks care thereby reducing over-immunization and missed vaccination opportunities. Table 1 reports adult vaccination doses reported to the MCIR from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017, from independent (defined as four or fewer locations), small (five to 10 locations) and large chains (more than 10 locations). Hospital and clinic based pharmacies were not included in this evaluation.

Table 1. Adult vaccine doses reporting to the MCIR by pharmacy chain type; Top 10 reporters, July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017

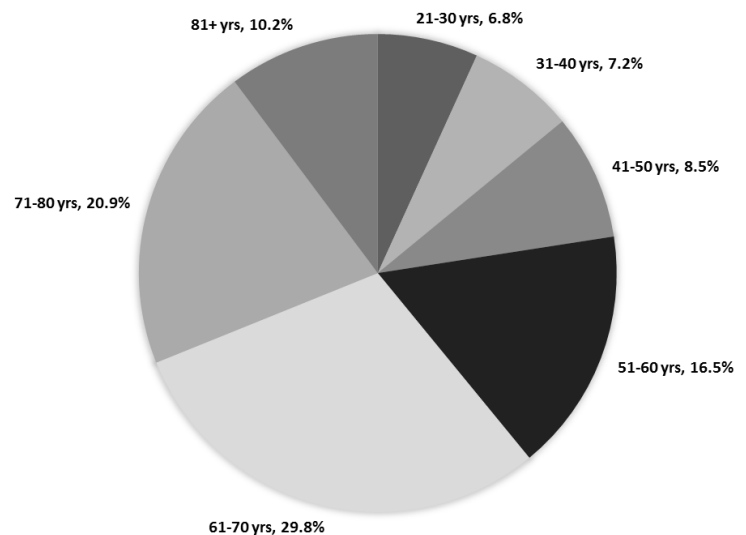
Pharmacy Type	Doses
Independent^a	
The Drug Store	1,404
Fred's Pharmacy	1,207
Gull Pointe Pharmacy	1,002
University Pharmacy	982
Paul's Pharmacy Inc	809
Portage Pharmacy	794
Shaw's Pharmacy	769
Delton Family Pharmacy	646
Medicine Tree Pharmacy	488
Jensen's Community Pharmacy	473
Small Chain^b	
VG's Pharmacy	960
Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy	659
Leppink's Food Centers Pharmacy	237
Central Pharmacy	172
Village Market Pharmacy	151
Genoa Pharmacy	149
OptiMed Pharmacy	80
Knight Drugs	36
Large Chain^c	
Walgreens	229,250
Rite Aid	179,652
Meijer	97,886
CVS	72,983
Kroger	48,091
Walmart	44,363
Sam's Club	8,595
HomeTown	7,746
Family Fare Supermarket	5,694
Kmart	3,794

^adefined as four or fewer locations

^bfive to 10 locations; only eight locations identified reporting to the MCIR July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017

^c10 or more locations

Figure 2. Percentage of adult vaccination doses reported to the MCIR by pharmacies, by age group, July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017



Key Takeaways:

- From July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017, the largest quantity of adult vaccination doses reported to the MCIR was for adults 61 years and older.
- Vaccinations are recommended across the lifespan, and pharmacy reporting to the MCIR is a key contributor to increasing the quantity of adult immunization data available in the MCIR.
- Michigan adults receive vaccinations from a variety of pharmacy settings. Ensuring that pharmacies and other members of the immunization neighborhood report adult vaccination doses to the MCIR promotes continuity of care through collaboration, coordination and communication among all health care providers.

IMMUNIZATION STANDARDS: PART OF A ROUTINE PRACTICE

Pharmacists have a central role in establishing an immunization neighborhood and ensuring continuity of care. To make immunizations a part of routine patient care in your practice, integrate four key steps:

- 1) **ASSESS** immunization status of all your patients at each patient encounter. This involves staying informed about the [latest CDC recommendations for immunization](#) and implementing protocols to ensure that patients' vaccination needs are routinely reviewed.
- 2) Strongly **RECOMMEND** vaccines that patients need. Key components of this include tailoring the recommendation for the patient, explaining the benefits of vaccination and potential costs of getting the diseases they protect against and addressing patient questions and concerns in clear and understandable language.
- 3) **ADMINISTER** needed vaccines or **REFER** your patients to a provider who can immunize them. It may not be possible to stock all vaccines in your office, so refer your patients to other known immunization providers in the area to ensure that they get the vaccines they need to protect their health. Coordinating a strong immunization referral network will reduce a substantial burden on your patients, your practice and your community.
- 4) **DOCUMENT** vaccines received by your patients. Help your office, your patients and your patients' other providers know which vaccines they have received by documenting in the Michigan Care Improvement Registry ([MCIR](#)). And for the vaccines you do not stock, follow up to confirm that patients received recommended vaccines.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PHARMACIES INTERESTED IN REPORTING TO, OR CURRENTLY REPORTING TO, THE MCIR:

- Make sure you are using the [Michigan Vaccine Information Statements](#) (VIS). VIS are sheets produced by the CDC that explain both the benefits and risks of a vaccine to vaccine recipients, their parents or their legal representatives. Federal law requires that VIS be handed out whenever certain vaccinations are given. **In Michigan, it is important that Michigan versions of VIS are distributed because they include verbiage that informs the vaccine recipient that their immunization data will be entered into the MCIR.**
- For additional information on the seasonal influenza vaccination, visit the [MDHHS influenza website](#) or the [CDC's influenza website](#).
- Please contact Lynsey Kimmins, Michigan Care Improvement Registry Epidemiologist with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, by phone at (517) 284-4891 or by email at kimminsl@michigan.gov if you have questions.

REMINDER: PHARMACY PROFESSIONALS ARE VALUABLE IMMUNIZERS DURING EMERGENCIES

Pharmacists and technicians can [register](#) online with the MI Volunteer registry to be available as immunizers in event of a pandemic situation. When registering, select the Organization for General Volunteers (and/or LHD, HCC, MRC if applicable) and indicate your profession under the Occupations information section. In addition, Vaccination Administration may be selected under the Skills & Certifications section. For general registration guidance consult the [MI Volunteer Registry – How to Register Guide](#). Additional information can be found in the [MI Volunteer Frequently Asked Questions Document](#). Once you have filled out the application, a Registry administrator will review and verify your information—including a criminal background check—to determine your qualification to assist with potential volunteer activities. Registration does not obligate you to volunteer.

PHARMACIES & THE MCIR: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does my pharmacy need to reenroll in the MCIR?

Sites only **enroll** with the MCIR once; follow the steps below to **enroll** your site with the MCIR:

Pharmacies administering vaccines must complete the [MCIR Provider User/Usage Agreement](#) for the site.

To be processed, the pharmacy agreement must be filled out completely and legibly, have a physician's name, signature and that physician's 10-digit Michigan license number. Completed forms should be faxed to [the appropriate regional contact](#).

Once processed, the person designated as the site administrator on the agreement will register in the MCIR and complete [site administer training](#); they will then be able to add additional authorized Users to the site.

Each User at your site will need to **register** to use the MCIR. The [User Registration Four-Step Process](#) can be found on [MCIR.org Pharmacies page](#). The User will be prompted to agree to the User Usage Agreement on a yearly basis.

Sites must **recertify** with the MCIR every three years. Recertification requires an updated [MCIR Provider User/Usage Agreement](#). Your site recertification date can be located by logging into your site's MCIR account, under the *My Site* heading click *Edit My Site*, under the *Details* heading the *Cert. Expires* will show when your site's certification expiration.

When your site is nearing its certification expiration date you should refill out the [MCIR Provider User/Usage Agreement](#) and fax to the [appropriate MCIR Regional Staff](#). Hospital and independent pharmacies should contact their [appropriate MCIR Regional Staff](#) with additional questions on recertification.

Of Note: The enrollment and recertification process is different for corporate pharmacies.

Corporate pharmacy offices work directly with the [State MCIR Helpdesk](#) regarding enrollment of new pharmacy stores, Users and recertification. Corporate recertification requires updating the [MCIR Provider User/Usage Agreement](#) and the [Corporate Pharmacy Enrollment Spreadsheet](#) and returning directly to mcirhelp@mphi.org.

Where can I get more information on pharmacy vaccine billing with Medicaid?

Information about Medicaid billing for vaccines can be found in the [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Provider Manual](#) (Section 14.15). Additional information can be found on [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services - Point of Sale System Web Announcements](#) page (search page for vaccine).

How do I use the MCIR to find (or add) patients and record immunizations?

The [Michigan Care Improvement Registry \(MCIR\) General Immunizing Pharmacy Directions](#) provides a step-by-step process.

Can I use my pharmacy system to upload data?

Depending on the functionalities of your system you may be able to, both [EXT](#) and [HL7](#) formats are accepted.

How often should I submit data electronically to the MCIR?

Ideally on a daily basis. If you are uploading from an electronic medical record, this process takes approximately five minutes at the end of the day.