



Dear Community Pharmacy Partners:

In the field of disaster response, pre-event planning and relationship building is critical to protecting the communities we serve when responding to emergencies. Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Division of Emergency Preparedness and Response (DEPR), formerly the Office of Public Health Preparedness, have been working on a joint project involving community pharmacies and their potential role in mass dispensing activities during a public health emergency. An outreach seminar was held in June 2013 in an effort to engage pharmacy partners in emergency response activities. A workgroup meeting followed this seminar in April 2014. The meeting focused on formulating a sample agreement outlining the roles and responsibilities of pharmacies and public health agencies involved.

State and local health departments maintain robust operational plans for responding to public health emergencies that require mass dispensing of life-saving medications and vaccines. Public and private sector partners such as hospitals, long-term care facilities, major corporations and other agencies that service at-risk populations augment these plans by providing specialized dispensing modalities to support a mass prophylaxis or vaccination campaign. They also ensure continuity of operations for their facility/business as well as protect their staff and the families of their staff. Maintaining the ability to ensure that medical assets can reach every person in their jurisdiction in an emergency is a difficult task for local public health to accomplish. This task is made even more difficult since these agencies do not specialize in pharmacy logistics or dispensing. As a committed community partner, your pharmacy and pharmacists can help ensure that the public is protected by serving as experts in the areas of dispensing medications and administering vaccines safely and efficiently in an emergency.

In August 2014, MPA and DEPR sent out inquiry cards to community pharmacy partners statewide to gauge the interest of partners regarding potential participation in this project. MPA is building a list of community pharmacies willing to formally confirming their partnership to support public health operations during an emergency. If you have already agreed to participate, then MPA is requesting your permission to post your business name and location on the MPA website as an official community partner. Listing this information on the website will allow state and local public health departments to identify which community pharmacies wish to be contacted in an emergency to help with response activities.

We thank you for your participation in this important project and for your interest in the role of community pharmacy in responding to future emergencies. For more information and helpful links, please visit the pharmacy toolkit located on the MPA website at www.MichiganPharmacists.org/resources/emergency. Click on the black bar entitled "Community Pharmacy All Hazards Dispensing Toolkit." Please feel free to contact MPA if you have any questions or to confirm your permission to allow us to list your business name and location in the toolkit. MPA can be reached for questions or to provide your confirmation at MPA@MichiganPharmacists.org. You can also provide your permission for the listing by completing the short form provided.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Michigan Pharmacists Association
MPA@MichiganPharmacists.org
ph (517) 484-1466

Community Partners in All Hazards Dispensing Program
Permission to Post Business Information on the Michigan Pharmacists Association Website

☐ Yes, I give Michigan Pharmacists Association permission to list my community pharmacy's name and location as well as the contact person's name and phone number on its website as a partner in this project.

Pharmacy Name: _____

Pharmacy Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Contact Email Address*: _____

Signature: _____

**Note: Email address will not be published on the website.*

Please complete the form above and return to:
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Michigan Pharmacists Association
408 Kalamazoo Plaza
Lansing, MI 48933

Or email the form to:
MPA@MichiganPharmacists.org