

# Vaccines

## *A Pharmacist's Public Health Priority*

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## Disclosure Statement

- Myriam Shaw Ojeda has no relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose.

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## Learning Objectives

At the completion of this activity, the participant will be able to:

1. Critique the status of COVID-19 vaccine uptake in the Midwest
2. Discuss pharmacy practice advancements based on pharmacist-led vaccine efforts
3. Explain future public health implications of current vaccine hesitancy movements

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## Polling Question

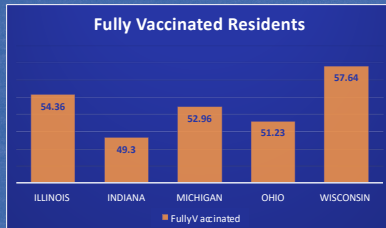
What has been the biggest barrier to COVID-19 vaccine uptake in your state? (Choose all that apply)

- A. Lack of access to vaccine administration locations
- B. Vaccine misinformation
- C. Politicized vaccine agenda
- D. Mistrust of healthcare professionals
- E. Confusing information from state and federal guidelines

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

- The Midwest states have generally presented in the middle range for vaccine uptake.



[https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations\\_vacc-total-admin-rate-total](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations_vacc-total-admin-rate-total)

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Practice Advancement

- The Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act has broadened pharmacist-led patient services and pharmacists have delivered:



Percentage of  
COVID-19 vaccines  
administered by  
Ohio pharmacists



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGvUw38hY8>

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Practice Advancement

- States have made legislative advancements to make PREP Act provisions permanent
  - Ohio House Bill 6:
    - Authorizes pharmacists to administer any vaccine to individuals 13 and older and both influenza and COVID-19 vaccines to individuals ages 7-13 without a prescription. [Effective May 14, 2021]
  - Illinois SB 2017:
    - Authorizes pharmacists to administer vaccines to individuals 7 years old and older via prescription or standing order that are listed on the CDC Recommended Immunization Schedule, CDC's Health Information for International Travel, or FDA Vaccines Licensed and Authorized for Use in the United States. [Effective June 17, 2021]

[https://search-prod.fls.state.oh.us/olapapi/v1/general\\_assembly\\_134/bills/hb6/EN/05/hb6\\_05\\_EN?format=pdf](https://search-prod.fls.state.oh.us/olapapi/v1/general_assembly_134/bills/hb6/EN/05/hb6_05_EN?format=pdf)  
<https://www.legis.gov/legislation/102/SB/10200582017/v.htm>

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Practice Advancement

- Indiana HB 1468:
  - Authorizes pharmacists and technicians to administer immunizations for coronavirus and allows registered nurses to supervise pharmacist interns or student pharmacists when administering immunizations. [Effective April 29, 2021]
- Wisconsin AB 4:
  - Authorizes pharmacy technicians and student pharmacists (interns) to administer vaccines and other drugs under direct supervision of a health care provider. [Effective February 21, 2021]

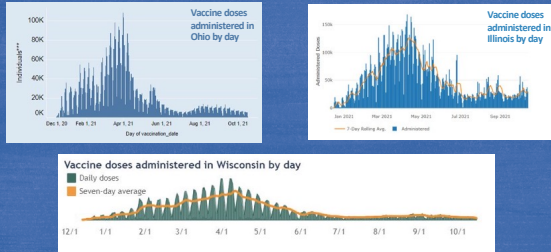
<http://ira.in.gov/legislative/2021/bills/house/1468>  
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/related/bills/3.pdf>

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy

- Vaccine doses administered have had similar trends in the Midwest.

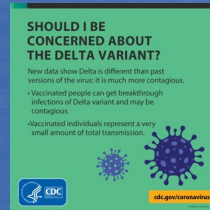


<https://www.ohio.gov/newsroom/covid-19-vaccine-doses-administered-by-day>  
<https://www.illinois.gov/newsroom/covid-19-vaccine-doses-administered-by-day>  
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-data.htm>

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy

- Vaccine hesitancy has caused immediate public health issues:
  - Additional variants of COVID-19
  - Risk to individuals unable to receive the vaccine



[https://www.co.lincoln.or.us/sites/default/files/imageattachments/hhs/page/14251/delta\\_variant\\_1.png](https://www.co.lincoln.or.us/sites/default/files/imageattachments/hhs/page/14251/delta_variant_1.png)

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy

- Vaccine hesitancy will cause future public health issues:
  - Prolonging a global pandemic
  - Vaccine hesitancy for other vaccine series
  - Healthcare costs stemming from vaccine-preventable diseases



Photo by Artem Podrez from Pexels

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## Vaccines and Public Health

### Proposed Solutions

- Grassroots level outreach right down to zip code or census tracks
- Optimize the momentum of pharmacist-driven care

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## Vaccines and Public Health

### Proposed Solutions

- Partnerships with state regulatory bodies
  - Plan for future vaccine outreach: Vaccines For Children program, Flu season, and other scheduled vaccines
- Asking the broader questions about how pharmacists can interface with vaccine efforts

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What questions do you have?

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