



# **Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists**

**July 30, 2020**



**Michael D. Hogue, PharmD, FAPhA, FNAP**  
Dean and Professor  
Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy  
President, APhA

*Host and Moderator*

## Today's Focus:

Discuss strategies to engage patients with chronic conditions and ensure continuity of care during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Amina Abubakar, PharmD, AAHIVP**

Owner

Rx Clinic Pharmacy

President

Avant Institute

*Guest Speaker*



**Jason Martinez, PharmD, BCACP**  
Chief Population Health Officer  
Community Health & Wellness Partners

Coordinator-elect of the APhA-APPM  
Care of Underserved Patients SIG

*Guest Speaker*





**Daniel Zlott, PharmD, BCOP**  
Vice President  
Professional Education Resources  
American Pharmacists Association

*Subject Matter Expert: Q&A*



**Ilisa BG Bernstein, PharmD, JD, FAPhA**  
Senior Vice President, Pharmacy Practice  
and Government Affairs  
American Pharmacists Association

*Subject Matter Expert: Q&A*

# Format for Today's Webinar

**1:00 pm:** Introductions

**1:05 pm:** Discussion with Amina Abubakar & Jason Martinez

**1:25 pm:** Open Forum: A Minute for Your Thoughts

**1:50 pm:** Wrap Up: Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming



## Discussion with Amina Abubakar & Jason Martinez

Discuss strategies to engage patients with chronic conditions and ensure continuity of care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Join the APhA-APPM Care of Underserved Patients SIG!

Purpose: To provide a professional community of pharmacists and stakeholders who are currently practicing within or plan to be involved in caring for underserved patient populations. This may include clinical practice sites or volunteer work with federally-qualified health centers (FQHCs), free & charitable health clinics, 340B pharmacies, or other community-based pharmacy settings, such as community pharmacies.

Opportunities to get involved:

- Advocacy
- Community
- Education

SIG Leaders: (Trang) Susan Nguyen – Coordinator; Jason Martinez – Coordinator-Elect

[Learn more about the Care of Underserved Patients SIG here!](#)

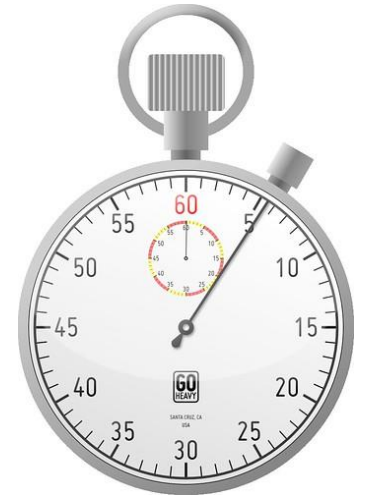
# Polling Question

Are you using bidirectional technology to communicate with patients during the COVID-19 pandemic and how would you describe its success?

- A. Yes, very successful
- B. Yes, somewhat successful
- C. Yes, not successful
- D. No
- E. Not applicable to my practice

# Open Forum Ground Rules

- Use the **Questions** field on the GoToWebinar toolbar to submit comments and questions related to the topic discussion
- Individuals whose submissions are selected will be asked by the moderator to state the comment or question for the audience. The line for the individual will be unmuted to read their comment or question.
- To maximize the number of questions/comments addressed, a **60-second time limit** will be in effect for everyone to state their question or comment.
- We will try to get to as many comments and questions as possible. We have created a new forum for COVID-19 discussions where further discussion post-webinar. Information on participating in this forum will be provided at the end of the open forum.



# Open Forum Discussion: A Minute for Your Thoughts *Comments, Questions, Feedback*

# Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming



# Advocating for You



On Friday, the President issued four Executive Orders aimed at reducing prescription drug prices, including:

- ✓ [Executive Order on Lowering Prices for Patients by Eliminating Kickbacks to Middlemen](#)
- ✓ [Executive Order on Increasing Drug Importation to Lower Prices for American Patients](#)
- ✓ [Executive Order on Access to Affordable Life-saving Medications](#)
- ✓ Executive Order to Establish International Price Index *(Not released at this time)*



# Advocating for You



## Joint Pharmacy DIR Letter to HHS: Pharmacy DIR Fee Reform Inclusion with Administration Executive Order

Urges the Administration to address DIR fees in the implementation of the Executive Order calling for the elimination of kickbacks to middlemen.



# Take Action Now!



APhA HQ @pharmacists · Jul 14

While Congress considers the next phase of [#COVID19](#) legislation, make your voice heard now on reimbursement for [#pharmacists](#) under Part B for COVID-19 and influenza services during this emergency: [actioncenter.pharmacist.com/campaign/coron...](https://actioncenter.pharmacist.com/campaign/coronavirus/)



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## It's Game Time! Tell Congress Pharmacists Can Help Fight COVID-19 and Influenza!

- Your immediate participation will help spur conversation within Congress about the need for pharmacists' provider status during the public health emergency.
- We need ALL of our representatives to advocate to Congressional leadership in both parties to ensure this receives the attention it – and our patients – deserve so it is included in the next legislative package!

### Take Action Now!

Congress is currently crafting new emergency legislation to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact your federal legislators immediately and ask them to allow pharmacists to test Medicare patients for COVID-19 and influenza.






Next

☒ Allow American Pharmacists Association to contact me about important future issues



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To take action now, go to: <https://actioncenter.pharmacist.com/campaign/coronavirus/>

To learn about how you can call your representatives, contact Mary-Ryan Douglas at [mrDouglass@aphanet.org](mailto:mrDouglass@aphanet.org)



# NEW EPISODES - APhA's 15 on COVID-19 Series

- **Dexamethasone Data in COVID-19 – Coming Friday, 7/31**
- **mRNA Vaccines for COVID-19 –**  
An overview of how mRNA vaccines work and a review of early data on whether mRNA vaccines are effective:  
<http://elearning.pharmacist.com/products/6160/15-on-covid-19-07-24-2020-mrna-vaccines>

<https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/resources-training>



# APhA COVID-19 Resources: Know the Facts




## Practical Information for Pharmacists to Know Now

### **NEW RESOURCE** – Pharmacy Models for COVID-19 Testing


A step-by-step overview of two emerging pharmacy COVID-19 testing models and the associated payment opportunities at this time. Pharmacists interested in providing COVID-19 testing should know the requirements and considerations to get started.

Check out additional [practice resources here](#)



APhA COVID-19 RESOURCES: KNOW THE FACTS



## Pharmacy Models for COVID-19 Testing



*As the response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, pharmacists and pharmacies across the country are mobilizing to support their communities through COVID-19 testing. Pharmacy testing models have emerged due to the ongoing effort to expand access to testing. This guide will provide an overview of two common models and the payment mechanisms associated at this time. This resource outlines a stepwise approach to COVID-19 testing and payment.*

#### Pharmacy Testing Model #1: Specimen Collection in Partnership with a Laboratory

In this model, the pharmacy partners with a CLIA high or moderate complexity laboratory.

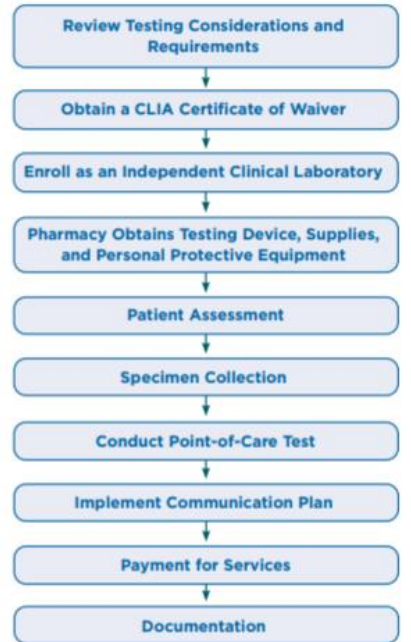


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graph TD
    A[Review Testing Considerations and Requirements] --> B[Identify a Laboratory Partner]
    B --> C[Obtain Testing Supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)]
    C --> D[Patient Assessment]
    D --> E[Specimen Collection]
    E --> F[Implement Communication Plan]
    F --> G[Payment for Services]
    G --> H[Documentation]
        
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#### Pharmacy Testing Model #2: Point-of-Care Testing

In this model, the pharmacist conducts the COVID-19 test at point of care using a test authorized by the FDA under an EUA for patient care settings.



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graph TD
    A[Review Testing Considerations and Requirements] --> B[Obtain a CLIA Certificate of Waiver]
    B --> C[Enroll as an Independent Clinical Laboratory]
    C --> D[Pharmacy Obtains Testing Device, Supplies, and Personal Protective Equipment]
    D --> E[Patient Assessment]
    E --> F[Specimen Collection]
    F --> G[Conduct Point-of-Care Test]
    G --> H[Implement Communication Plan]
    H --> I[Payment for Services]
    I --> J[Documentation]
        
```

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# Post on **ENGAGE**

## *Pharmacy's Response to COVID-19*

**POST** your questions

**SHARE** your lessons learned

**SUPPORT** your colleagues

**ACCESS** the latest information



What has surprised you about patient engagement during the pandemic?

Which communication tools do you recommend?



# Join Us

*Same Day, Same Time, Same Place*

- Weekly webinar will be on **Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, from 1-2pm ET**
- Today's webinar recording and slides will be available within 24 hours

## COVID-19 Resources and Training for You



### Webinars

**Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists** are weekly webinars conducted every Thursday from 1:00 pm–2:00 pm ET. Each open forum webinar is moderated by APhA President Michael Hogue.

- July 30: **Register for the webinar.** This webinar focuses on strategies to engage patients with chronic conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- July 23: **Access the recording and view the slides.** This webinar focused on how COVID-19 has impacted patients with chronic pain and substance use disorder.
- July 16: **Access the recording and view the slides.** This webinar focused on the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on minority communities and how social determinants of health can impact the effectiveness of patients' clinical care and overall health outcomes.
- July 9: **Access the recording and view the slides.** Learn the latest on how the virus spreads and progresses, risk factors, and other considerations about COVID-19 infection. This webinar highlighted the role of epidemiology in community protection and how pharmacists can play a role in community surveillance.
- June 25: **Access the recording and view the slides.** This week featured Dan Zlott, APhA Vice President, Professional Education Resources, who discussed the latest information on medications being studied for COVID-

<https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/resources-training>