



August 2019

Dear Pharmacy Owner/Manager/District Supervisor

The UConn School of Pharmacy and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) are collaborating on a 5-year Centers for Disease Control (CDC) innovation grant to develop, implement, and evaluate a new role for community pharmacies. This new role would be to screen and refer low income, underinsured/uninsured women 21 years or older to a site of the Connecticut Early Detection and Prevention Program (CEDPP) that can confirm eligibility and provide free preventive services to these women. Such services include cardiovascular, breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostic and treatment referral services. You are being approached today since one of our pharmacists, known as an academic detailer, who is trained in providing education and support of pharmacy's involvement in the CEDPP approached your pharmacy staff about your site's participation in this initiative.

If you agree to participate, the academic detailer would come out to the pharmacy for 3 brief 20 minute visits during a time suitable for your pharmacists/pharmacy staff. The pharmacy staff would learn about the CEDPP programs, eligibility criteria, key points to share with potentially eligible participants, and learn of suggestions as to how to implement the program. They would receive flyers to post and brochures with information about the program. There would be clear goals across the visits to ensure the screening and referral program can be implemented before the last of these visits. The screening process involves a few simple questions to ask women suspected of being eligible. If the potentially eligible participant agrees to be referred, a referral form will be sent to the CEDPP site.

For your pharmacy's staff time for the 3 visits, they will receive 0.1 CEU of Live Continuing Education (accredited by ACPE) for participation in all visits. For every participant referred, the pharmacy will receive a referral fee which can be handled as follows: (1) Pharmacist making the referral receives \$12.50 and the Pharmacy Ownership receives another \$12.50 OR (2) the pharmacist making the referral receives the entire \$25 fee. Whoever receives payment would need to register as a vendor of the state- this essentially involves providing our UConn project team a name and address and they are sent a link to sign up. After which, a contract would be set up and a method of reimbursement would be set up. Periodically invoices would be submitted. Therefore, this could involve the pharmacist staff member as a vendor and the pharmacy owner as a separate vendor for each to receive part of the referral fee.

We hope you can support this innovative program. We would like to take the results of our program to further DPH and other agencies' support of community pharmacy's role in public health screening and referral efforts. The hope is that our pilot data will enable this innovative idea to mature and become a new funding model for community pharmacy with dollars flowing from these agencies to the pharmacies. We view this program as a wonderful marketing opportunity for a pharmacy to promote their public health efforts in their community and possibly attract new patients to the pharmacy. Additionally, it is believed this type of program will allow pharmacists to experience greater professional satisfaction by being a part of a public health initiative that helps low income women receive needed services and being compensated for such efforts. At the UConn School of Pharmacy, we continue to strive in finding new ways to advance community pharmacy practice. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding you and your staff's involvement in this critical program to help underserved women throughout Connecticut.

Warmest Regards,

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