Unite for Impact Challenge – Example Narrative (Practice Category)

Institution(s):
Community Care Pharmacy Collaborative, [City, State]

Category:
Practice

Topic Area:
Point-of-Care Testing and Collaborative Practice Model

Faculty Lead Contacts:
[Full Name]
[Email]
[Phone]

Pharmacist Lead Contact:
[Full Name]
[Email]
[Phone]

External Partner Contact(s):
[Full Name]
[Email]
[Phone]

Trainees:
[List names of student pharmacists, residents, or fellows with emails/phone numbers]

Narrative Description

Project Idea:
The Community Care Pharmacy Collaborative, which includes our school of pharmacy partnered with a federally qualified health center (FQHC) to expand point-of-care testing (POCT) for influenza, strep throat, and COVID-19. The goal was to increase patient access to rapid diagnostic testing in a community with limited urgent care options.

Description of New Collaboration
Our new initiative was built through a unique collaboration between the community pharmacy, which offered accessible hours, a private consultation space, and pharmacist expertise. The FQHC clinic provided clinical oversight and created referral pathways for patients needing prescriptions or additional care. Faculty from the college of pharmacy guided program design, workflow mapping, and student training. Trainees supported

patient education, data collection, and service evaluation. By bringing together these stakeholders, the team created a bi-directional referral system where clinic staff referred patients with mild respiratory symptoms to the pharmacy for rapid POCT. Patients testing positive at the pharmacy were referred to the clinic for diagnosis and prescribing when appropriate.

This partnership demonstrated how academic, clinical, and community settings can combine their strengths to expand healthcare access.

Outcomes:

Program-Level Outcomes (Sample Placeholder Data):

- Number of patients tested in first 3 months: [XX]
- Average wait time reduction compared to clinic baseline: [XX%]
- Percentage of positive tests appropriately referred and treated within 24 hours: [XX%]
- Patient satisfaction score (survey-based): [XX/5]
- Estimated healthcare cost savings compared to urgent care/ED use: [$XX]

Trainee Impact:

- Number of trainees involved: [XX]
- Trainees' reported increase in confidence providing POCT services: [XX%]

Community Impact:

- Expanded after-hours access for working families.
- Improved linkage-to-care in an area with documented provider shortages.

This new service line for the community pharmacy created diversified revenue streams through testing fees and collaborative referrals. This project provided stronger academic–practice partnership, with faculty integrating the project into coursework and student rotations. It also improved clinic efficiency by reducing demand for same-day appointments, allowing providers to focus on complex cases.

Pharmacy Website Link/Multimedia Materials: (provided link/videos/photos)

Impact Statement:

This project underscores the power of collaboration in advancing pharmacy practice. By leveraging existing pharmacy infrastructure and clinic expertise, the team created a replicable model that demonstrates how POCT can be implemented without waiting for new legislation or policy reform. Ultimately, this initiative shows how practice innovation can both meet immediate patient needs and lay the groundwork for scalable change, amplifying the value of pharmacists as essential members of the healthcare team.

For questions, please reach out to aacpcenter@aacp.org.

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