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# The Pivotal Role of the Pharmacist in a Primary Care Office

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# The Pivotal Role of the Pharmacist in a Primary Care Office

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Cedarville University School of Pharmacy

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

### BACKGROUND

- Due to educational growth, pharmacists are prepared for more patient outcome involvement.
- There are gaps in the health care system than can be filled by a pharmacist.
- One of the gaps is Medication Therapy Management services (MTM/MTMS).
- A collaboration between the pharmacist, physician and other health care providers may increase patient outcomes.
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) are attempting to bridge the gaps by employing pharmacists.
- In this research, we want to look at pharmacists involved in MTM and FQHC's in the state of Ohio.

### HYPOTHESIS

- **Null-** The addition of pharmacists in providing clinical services will not provide adequate support to the increasing patient care demands within the clinic setting.
- **Alternative-** The addition of pharmacists in providing clinical services will provide support to the increasing patient care demands within the clinic setting.

## OBJECTIVE

**To determine if the addition of pharmacists providing clinical services in a primary care setting can support the prescribers' patient care demands.**

## METHODS

### STUDY DESIGN.

- Observational exploratory study design will utilize cross-sectional studies.

### SAMPLE

- Convenience sampling includes any FQHC in the state of Ohio.

### DATA COLLECTION

- Administer surveys to FQHCs via email with Qualtrics.
- Results will be stored and analyzed in SPSS.

### MEASUREMENT

- Surveys will assess perceptions of pharmacist involvement as well as MTM services rendered in the FQHC's.
- Other healthcare professionals and pharmacists will be surveyed to assess perceptions and patient outcomes.

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

- Surveys will assess perceptions of pharmacist involvement as well as MTM services rendered in the FQHC's.
- Other healthcare professionals and pharmacists will be surveyed to assess perceptions and patient outcomes.

## DISCUSSION

### PROJECT TIMELINE

Spring 2014	Fall 2014	Spring 2015	Fall 2015	Spring 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creation of survey and IRB approval</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distribution of survey and data collection</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Statistical analysis of data</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compose research document</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of findings</li></ul>

### LIMITATIONS

- Limited Generalizability, due to research being done only in Ohio with FQHC's.
- There is no control for different staffing.
- The process is only being looked at as a cross-sectional snapshot.

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Future studies with live samples, including more areas of the country .
- To show the benefits of pharmacists in other primary care offices.

## REFERENCES

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