

The Ohio Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Position Statement on the Role and Goals of OSHP for Public Health & Wellness Awareness

There are currently many groups (e.g., Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences, American Medical Association, governmental agencies) who are actively engaged in public health surveillance and educational program. This, it is more prudent for OSHP to expend its efforts educating and reinforcing the role of the pharmacist than to duplicate the efforts of other groups.

The pharmacist has a responsibility to provide health care services to the public and to follow the current standards of practice. As such, OSHP has a responsibility to its membership to ensure that the pharmacist has adequate information to provide good patient care. Thus, the OSHP should direct its efforts in the following areas:

1. OSHP should promote education programs for pharmacists on current public health concerns. Examples include HIV/AIDS, opioid epidemic, vaccinations, mental health, and many others. The programs should inform the pharmacist of the latest information on the identification of high risk patients, the disease process, available treatments, and/or current practice guidelines.
2. OSHP should actively keep pharmacists informed of new information on public health concerns, e.g., new therapies, new legislation, new health and wellness recommendations.
3. OSHP should encourage pharmacists to be active in the education of the public and patients.
4. OSHP should support legislation which encourages further educational research and financial assistance in the areas of public health.
5. OSHP should keep its membership informed of the various recommendations or legislation in the area of public health.

Adopted by the OSHP House of Delegates May 6, 2019