



Pharmacist – an active partner in the Primary Health Care in Europe

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PGEU Vice-President
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Risto Kanerva



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- Vice-President, Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union PGEU
- President, The Association of Finnish Pharmacies AFP
- Proprietary pharmacist at Tapiola pharmacy in Espoo, Finland entrepreneur since 2010
- More than 35 years of work experience in the pharmaceutical branch, e.g., CEO at Oriola Oy and Managing director of Helsinki University Hospital Pharmacy
- Ph.D. (Pharm.), Helsinki University

“Community Pharmacists are the **most accessible** health professionals to the public and are a **foundation** of primary health care.”

- WHO, 2019

Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union

Members: Professional Bodies & Pharmacists' Associations



2023: 32 Countries

	Austria		Luxembourg
	Belgium		Malta
	Bulgaria		Netherlands
	Croatia		Poland
	Cyprus		Portugal
	Czech Rep		Romania
	Denmark		Slovakia
	Estonia		Slovenia
	Finland		Spain
	France		Sweden
	Germany		Kosovo
	Greece		North Macedonia
	Hungary		Norway
	Ireland		Serbia
	Italy		Turkey
	Latvia		United Kingdom

Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union

At the heart of communities



400.000
Community
Pharmacists

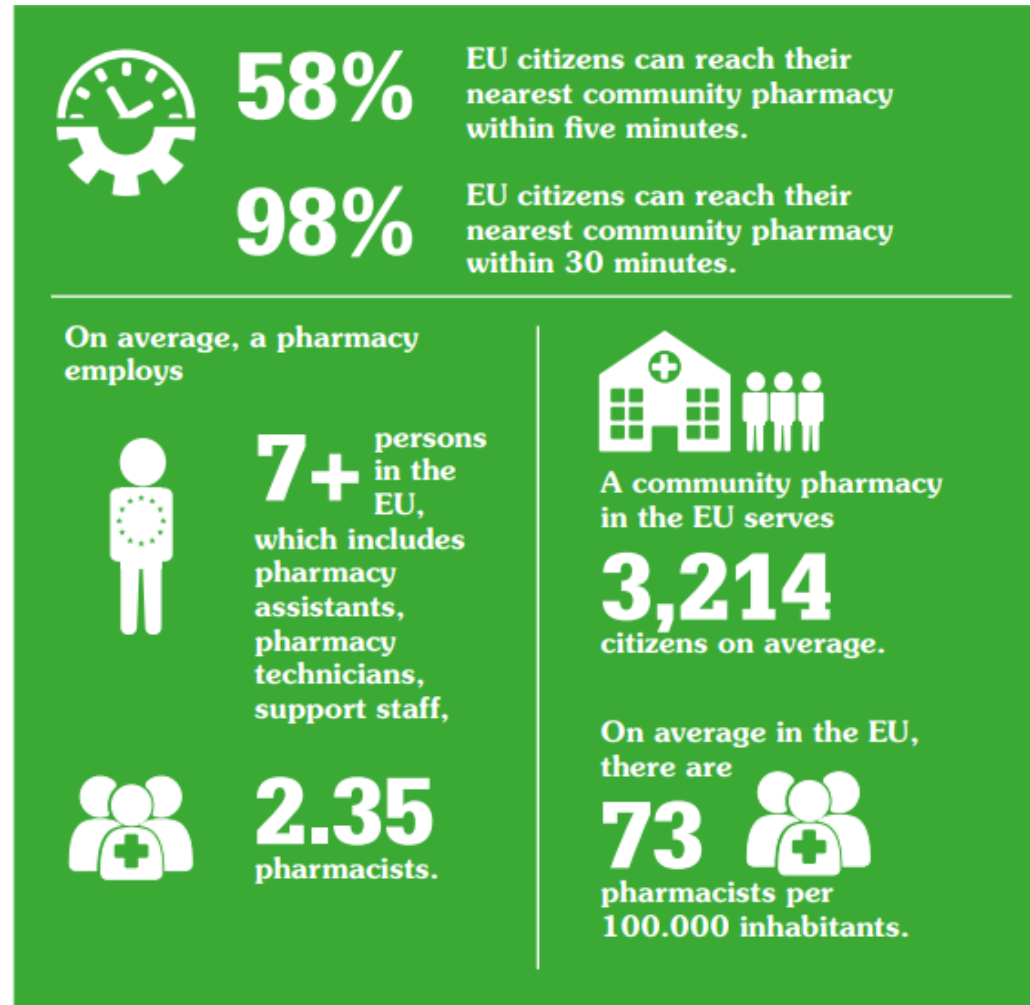


160.000 Community
Pharmacies



46 million
citizens visit a
pharmacy every day

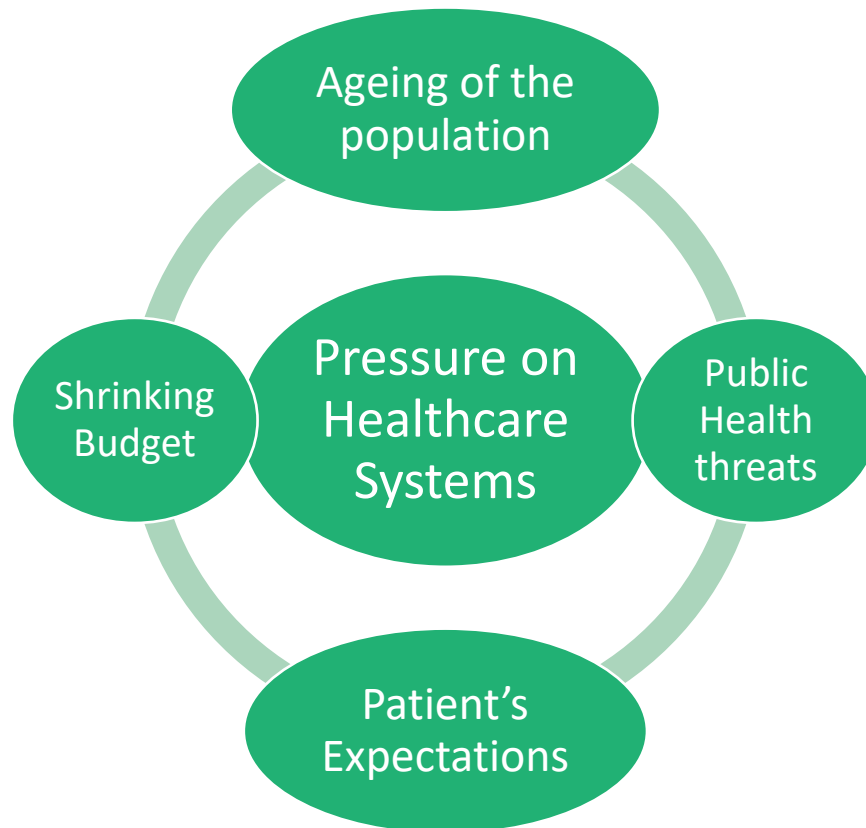
At the heart of communities



Advancement of the Profession



Changing Role of Community Pharmacists to address Societal Needs



Community Pharmacy is **changing** to respond to these challenges.



Focus on dispensing medicines
AND
management of diseases.

Pharmacists' activities



Pharmacy Services - What are they and Why are they important?

- **Core Pharmacy Services**

- Dispensing services
- Compounding services
- Emergency care and minor ailment management
- Medication management



- **Complex health interventions**

- Health promotion
- Disease prevention
- Disease management
- Medication management

- **Advanced Pharmaceutical Care Services**

- Vaccination
- Smoking cessation
- Measurement of biologic parameters
- Chronic disease management
- Early screening and testing

Medicine Use Review (MUR)

MUR is a **structured evaluation of patients' medicines** with the aim of **optimizing medicines use and improving health outcomes**. This entails detecting drug related problems and recommending interventions. This service is available in 19 countries.

Pharmacists' contribution:

- Reduce medication errors
- Maximize medicine impact

This can further be integrated in the healthcare system, as pharmacists can, after a **face-to-face interview with the patient**, discuss findings with the prescriber, or optimizing themselves the pharmacotherapeutic plan (should the national legislation allow for it).

New Medicine Service

Available in a pharmacy in 12 European countries (BE, DK, ES, FI, IE, IT, MT, NL, NO, PT, SE, UK).

- The service provides support for people with long-term conditions newly prescribed a medicine
- It aims to improve **medicines adherence** and patient outcomes (patients most likely to discontinue treatment in first month or two)
- National target groups (high risk) are normally agreed to guide the selection of patients to whom the service is offered

Vaccination




Pharmacist-delivered vaccination is the administration of vaccines by the community pharmacist inside the pharmacy premises.

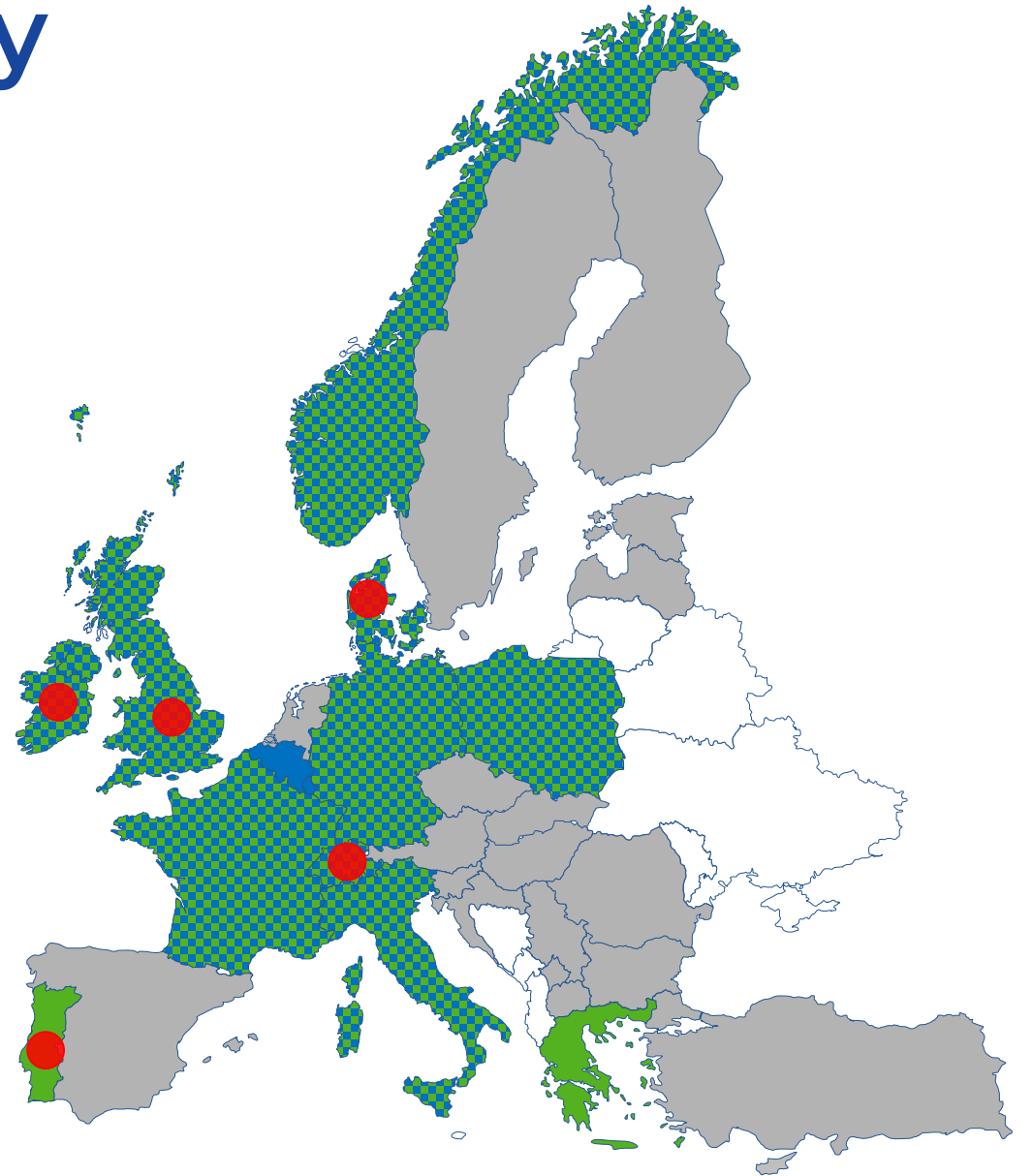
Vaccination services, being it flu vaccination, COVID-19 vaccination, or other type of vaccines, are provided in Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania Switzerland and the United Kingdom.



Reach people who had never been vaccinated for flu before and to **increase overall vaccination delivery rates** whilst showing high satisfaction rates from users.

Vaccination in Pharmacy (by Pharmacist)

-  Influenza (11 countries)
-  COVID-19 (11 countries)
-  Other vaccines (8)

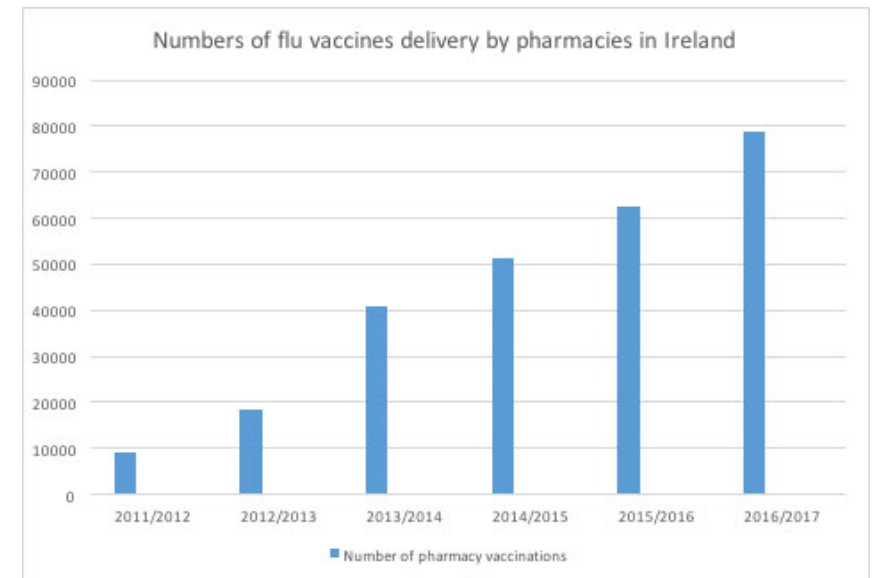
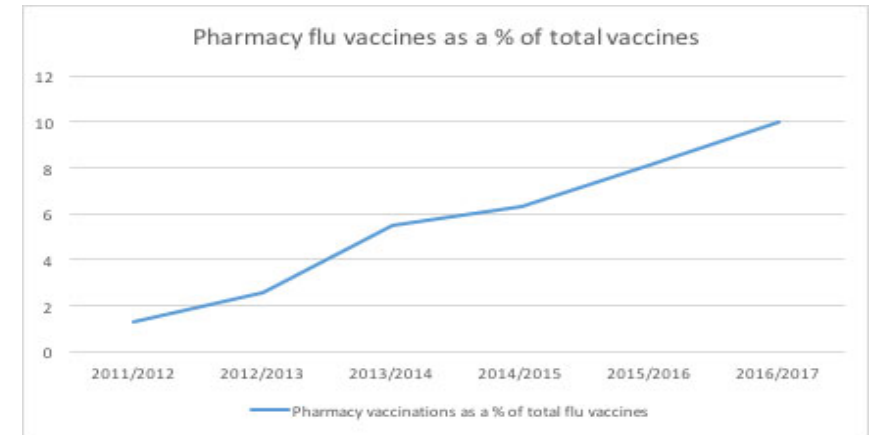


Portugal

- Pharmacists vaccinate since 2007.
- 2018 pilot:
 - The first results showed that the community pharmacies pilot contributed to an increase by 31.8% of the vaccination coverage in this municipality.
- Flu Vaccination Campaign 2020: Pharmacies received ~10% of the vaccine stock of the National Health Service
 - Citizens over 65 years able to receive the flu vaccine in a pharmacy without a prescription
 - Pharmacies are reimbursed for the administration of vaccines, which covers part of the overall cost of this service for pharmacies

Ireland

- >1,000 community pharmacies provide flu vaccination service (1907 pharmacies in IE)
- Pharmacies now account for over 16% of flu vaccinations
- Since pharmacies started flu vaccination in 2011, national flu vaccine delivery has increased by 59.5% and GP flu vaccine delivery has increased by 27%
- Other vaccinations in pharmacy: Pneumococcal & Herpes zoster (shingles) vaccine



France

- 1st March 2019: All pharmacists in France are allowed to vaccinate:
 - Complete vaccination training program (theoretical training + practical training)
 - Private consultation space in pharmacy
- 2019-2020: 2,4 million people (1 out of 4) got vaccinated in a pharmacy
- January 2022: around 60% of COVID-19 vaccines were given by pharmacists, 25% by doctors and 15% by nurses in France. Satisfaction rate of the service 4.92/5.00



UK - England



62% of patients who got their flu jab in community pharmacy were aged 65 or over

Community pharmacists in England have already administered almost 1.5 million flu vaccines, topping last year's total.

<https://www.chemistanddruggist.co.uk/news/pharmacists-beat-201819-flu-vaccination-numbers-end-season?fbclid=IwAR2Nj6R57cFkquZ2VYfnVQwldHBfDE3GvmEoBomqMoAxMlvzYWHLyWYubJc>

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Influenza

Flu survey finds 99% of patients would have their vaccination at a pharmacy again

The Pharmaceutical Journal | 25 SEP 2017 | By Julia Robinson

<http://www.pharmaceutical-journal.com/news-and-analysis/news/flu-survey-finds-99-of-patients-would-have-their-vaccination-at-a-pharmacy-again/20203614.article>

2019-2020: Flu vaccinations administered by community pharmacists grew by **20%** with **1,718,147** administrations being claimed to the end of March

Other success stories

- **Italy**

- March 2021 – Pharmacists are granted the right to vaccinate against COVID-19
- Flu Campaign 2021-2022 – Community Pharmacists can vaccinate for the first time

- **Germany**

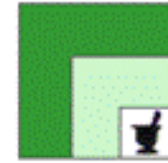
- October 2020 – Flu vaccines in Community Pharmacy
- February 2022 – COVID-19 vaccines

- **Poland**

- January 2021 – pharmacists can vaccinate against COVID-19
- November 2021 – service extended to administer influenza shots

- **Belgium**

- Flu Campaign 2020-2021 – pharmacists can prescribe influenza vaccines with reimbursement
- September 2022 – pharmacists can vaccinate against COVID-19



federfarma



Perspectives for the future

Expand already existing services...

- COVID-19 Rapid Antigenic Testing
- Vaccination
- Medicines Use Review
- Medication Reconciliation
- Rapid tests for diagnostic orientation (TROD) in the context of antibiotic dispensing
- Protocol-based dispensing
- Withdrawal of sleeping pills (BZRA) by drug tapering through magisterial preparation

- ... and the development of new ones!

Conclusions

Conclusions

- Community Pharmacists are recognized as the **healthcare professional that is closest to the patients**, being often simultaneously the **first point of contact** with the healthcare system, and the **last healthcare professional that patients contact before taking their medication**. They are a crucial and vital position to contribute to **health promotion, disease management** and to provide **services** that will result in better health outcomes.
- A number of pharmacy services have been promoted and developed in Europe, aiming at increasing the effectiveness of therapy, better quality of care, better health outcome and lower costs.

Conclusions

- Pharmacy services have been regarded as positive-contributing health interventions, with constructive results at individual and community level.
- Pharmacists are highly skilled and trained healthcare professionals that are able to serve communities, thus proving its added value for the healthcare system.
- Remuneration of pharmacy services will allow further sustainability of these interventions and expansion of pharmacy practice.

THANK YOU!

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