

Feasibility of using pharmacy settings for organ donor registrations—A Pilot

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BACKGROUND

- There are currently more than 100,000 people waiting for an organ transplant. Even though 90% of Americans believe in organ donation, only about 60% are currently registered.
- Access and negative feelings about the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) may inhibit individuals from registering to be an organ donor.
- Community pharmacies are easily accessible and are staffed by health care providers who are more knowledgeable about the need for organ donation than at DMVs

OBJECTIVE

- a) Determine consumer perception of pharmacy as a site for organ donor registration.
- b) Determine the frequency of registrations obtained with pharmacy as a site for organ donor registration
- c) Determine effect of infograph designed for the study on consumer perceptions about organ donation and registration.

METHODS

Study Design:

observational cross-sectional.

Participation:

• Patients from 1 of 2 Walgreens locations (Troy, IL and 6th St. in Springfield, IL) who came to a) get a vaccine, b) pick up or drop off prescription, or c) make a purchase at the pharmacy counter and were d) are at least 18 years old.

Infograph:

- Statistics about organ donation, facts about registration, two short biographies of pharmacy employees who have received a life saving organ.
- Only one location (Springfield) administered the infograph education if they were interested.

Survey:

- Version 1: for participants currently registered asked demographic information and question "How likely would you be to be registered at a community pharmacy if they offered organ donor registration with 5-likert scale
- Version 2: offered to patients not registered after infograph education at Springfield location.
 - 21 questions.
 - Demographic questions (age, race, gender, education level, salary)
 - 5 knowledge questions about information on infograph
 - 9 effectiveness of the infograph
 - 1 item health literacy question
 - Opinion of pharmacy being an alternative site for organ donation registration
- Survey was pilot tested among 10 individuals, pharmacy employees and students.
- IRB approval was obtained.

METHODS

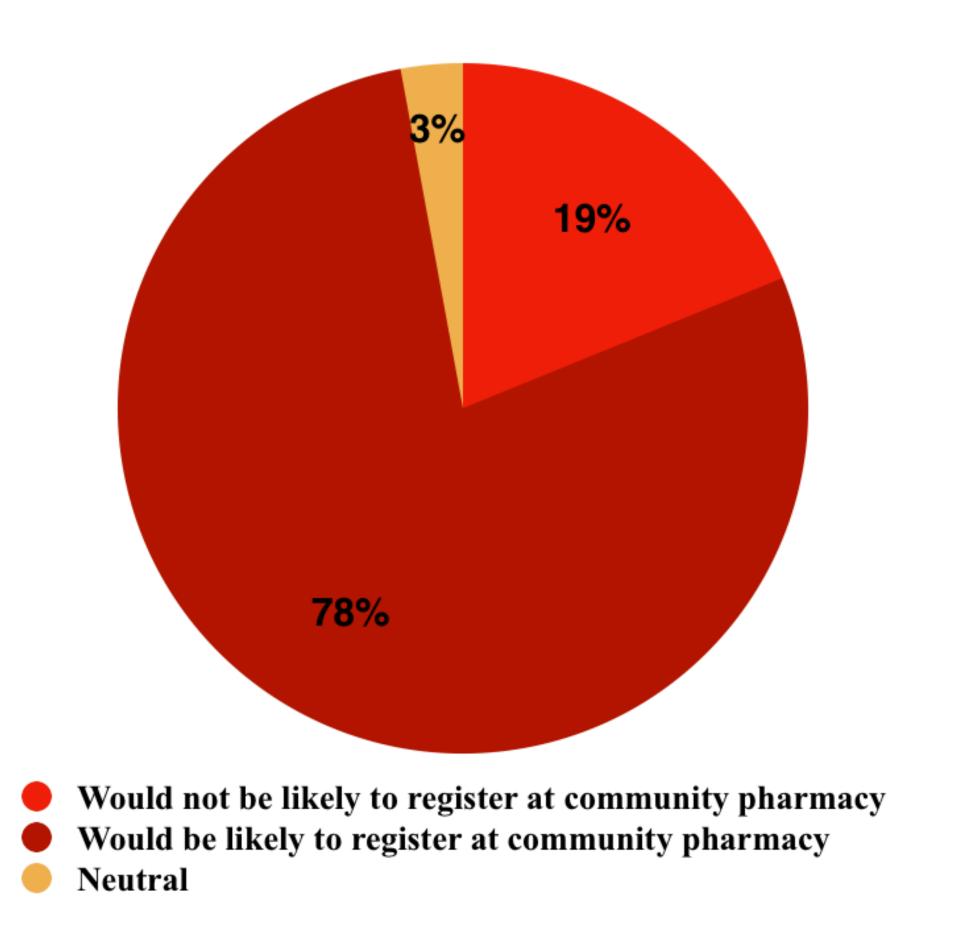
Data Collection:

- Troy
- Ask about current registration status
- If not registered ask if they would currently like to register
- If registered ask if they will participate in survey
- Springfield
 - Ask about current registration status
 - If not registered educate about organ donor registration using infograph
 - Ask if they would like to be registered
 - Ask if they will fill out version 2 of survey
 - If registered ask if will complete survey version 1

RESULTS

- A total of 138 patients completed version 1 at both locations and 32 participants in the Springfield location completed the infograph surveys.
- Majority (93.7 %) of respondents had adequate health literacy.
 - using a score of greater than 2 signifying adequate health literacy based on previous trials of single item literacy screening
- Average percent of knowledge items correctly answered was 86% (range: 20-100%)
 - 34.4% missed question regarding medical status and organ donor registration
 - 16% missed question regarding religion in relation to organ donor registration
- No statistically significant differences by age and gender were present to question about likelihood of registering at a pharmacy.

Figure 1: Likeliness to Register at a Community Pharmacy



RESULTS

Table 1: Registration Status

# of			Not Currently	Registered at
Location	participants(N=138)	Currently Registered (%)	Registered (%)	Pharmacy
Troy	74	65 (87.8)	9 (12.2)	2
6 th Street	64	55 (85.9)	9 (14.1)	0

Table 2: Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	Total N=138 (%)	Survey version 2 N=32 (%)
Age		
18-30	24 (17.4)	8 (25.0)
31-45	47 (34.1)	13 (40.6)
46-60	34 (24.6)	7 (21.9)
61-80+	33 (23.9)	4 (12.5)
Gender		
Male	68 (49.3)	17 (53.1)
Female	70 (50.7)	15 (46.9)
Other	0	0
Race		27 (24 4)
White Disals on African American		27 (84.4)
Black or African American		4 (12.5)
Other or Unanswered		1 (3.1)
Highest Education Level		
Less than high school		1 (3.1)
High school/GED		8 (25)
Associates degree		4 (12.5)
Bachelors degree		17 (53.1)
Masters' Degree or Ph.D		2 (6.3)
Other professional degree (pharmD, JD)		0
Yearly Gross Income		
Less than \$20,000		7 (21.9)
\$21,000-50,000		7 (21.9)
\$51,000-75,000		7 (21.9)
\$76,000-100,000		4 (12.5)
More than \$100,000		5 (15.6)
Did not reply		2 (6.3)
Health Literacy		
Low		2 (6.3)
Adequate	30 (93.7)	

CONCLUSION

- This pilot study suggests that patients were amenable to signing up for organ donor registrations at a community pharmacy.
- Despite large percent of participants already being registered, two registrations were secured.
- The infograph designed for the study increased participant knowledge of organ donation.
- However, there was limited success in getting participants to invest time in completing the survey.
- This pilot study offers the first step to designing more studies that focus on pharmacy as a site for organ donor registration.