

WALGREENS WORK IN HIV AND AGING

WHAT IS WALGREENS DOING TO ADDRESS HIV?

Through more than 800 Walgreens HIV-specialized pharmacies throughout the country, Walgreens more than 2,000 HIV-trained pharmacists provide confidential, face-to-face medication therapy consultations and health and wellness guidance to people living and aging with HIV.

WHAT IS THE WALGREENS HIV-SPECIALIZED PHARMACY NETWORK?

The Walgreens network of HIV-specialized pharmacies are located in communities across the country that are most impacted by HIV. Within these pharmacies, specially-trained pharmacists can:

- Provide confidential one-on-one medication counseling
- Tailor medication plans
- Review your medication plans to identify drug interactions
- Offer side effect counseling and management

Pharmacists at these locations are trained on HIV/AIDS plus other health conditions such as hepatitis C, diabetes, and high blood pressure.

WHAT ARE THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS OF AN HIV-TRAINED PHARMACIST?

Walgreens HIV-trained pharmacists have completed a curriculum designed and reviewed by HIV education experts with the National Alliance for HIV Education and Workforce Development (NAHEWD) and the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM).

WHAT IS MEDICATION ADHERENCE? WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR THOSE OVER 50 WHO ARE LIVING WITH HIV?

“Medication adherence” is a medical term that means taking your HIV drugs when and how you are directed. Medication adherence is extremely important at any age because it affects how well your HIV medications decrease your viral load. The lower your viral load, the healthier you are likely to be.

HOW DOES WALGREENS HELP PEOPLE WITH HIV ADHERE TO THEIR MEDICATION?

- To help support adherence, Walgreens HIV-trained pharmacists work closely with you to review your medication plans and provide personalized adherence support. They can help keep you on track by:

- Reviewing all of your prescriptions to help eliminate the fear of harmful side effects.
- Synchronizing refills so you only have to visit the pharmacy once a month (or discuss convenient home delivery options).
- Reducing barriers to cost by helping you secure low copays.
- Walgreens personalized medication counseling and support can make a difference – in fact, research shows that HIV-specialized services by a Walgreens pharmacist is two to three times more effective at increasing your adherence to HIV drugs¹.
- Walgreens has built programs around the holistic well-being of those living with HIV including other health conditions that may be present, not just your HIV.
 - With more than 8,200 locations nationwide, Walgreens provide access to all CDC-recommended immunizations and comprehensive health tests at select Walgreens locations, including cholesterol and blood glucose*.

For more information on HIV/AIDS support, call Walgreens confidential hotline at 800-573-3602 (hours 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST) or visit HIV.Walgreens.com.

* Test results are not for diagnostic or treatment purposes and are not conclusive as to the absence or presence of any health condition. Recipients are encouraged to report test results to their primary care physician. Pharmacist consultation with patient does not constitute medical advice.

Vaccines subject to availability. State-, age- and health-related restrictions may apply.

¹ DuChane J, Taitel M, Fensterheim L, et al. Two retrospective cohort studies exploring HIV medication and overall adherence at HIV-specialized pharmacies: implications for HIV patients with comorbid conditions and serious mental illness. *The Lancet* 2013;382(S):3.



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