

Prepared for the National Association of Chain Drug Stores

Adults in Massachusetts support pharmacists conducting tests and providing treatment for common illnesses such as COVID-19, the flu, strep throat, and UTIs. Adults in Massachusetts also support making permanent recent expansions of pharmacist care to ensure continued access to vaccinations, testing, and treatment for common conditions.

TREATING + PREVENTING COMMON CONDITIONS

A majority of adults in Massachusetts support pharmacists providing care to patients experiencing common conditions.

Pharmacist Actions	% Support (Strongly + Somewhat)
Helping patients prevent chronic disease such as heart disease and diabetes	71%
Helping patients to understand their nutritional choices	75%
Testing for and treating common illnesses (i.e. flu, COVID-19, etc.)	76%
Testing for and treating common minor conditions such as strep throat and urinary tract infections (UTIs)	69%
Screening for diabetes	73%
Initiating treatment for diabetes (if screening is positive)	64%
Screening for high cholesterol	72%
Testing for sexually transmitted infections	63%

CONTINUED ACCESS TO CARE

A majority of adults, including **84%** of adults in Massachusetts believe it's important for their state to update its policies to ensure that patients **permanently have the same access to pharmacy vaccination, testing, and treatment services** that were available during the COVID-19 pandemic.

86% of adults in Massachusetts say pharmacists are **easy to access**, the highest percentage of the tested options.

FAIR COMPENSATION

Adults in Massachusetts also wish to see pharmacists reimbursed by insurers for providing care: **72%** support private and government insurers **adequately paying pharmacists** for testing and initiating treatment in states where pharmacists are authorized to do so.

SIMPLE TESTING AND TREATMENT

When simple tests exist to help identify common conditions, adults in Massachusetts support pharmacists providing care for the following if a patient tests positive:

COVID-19: 75% **Flu**: 76% **Strep Throat**: 77% **UTI**: 73%

HIV PREVENTION

Adults in Massachusetts believe pharmacists have a role in helping people prevent HIV.

74% support pharmacists administering **simple HIV tests** at pharmacies.

66% support pharmacists **prescribing preventative medication** (called PrEP) to those who are seeking to prevent HIV but who have not yet been exposed to it.

69% support pharmacists **prescribing preventative medication** (called PEP) to those who have possibly been exposed to HIV.

Methodology: This nationwide poll was conducted online from October 25-30, 2023 among a sample of 10,031 adults. State-level results are estimated by a multi-level regression and post-stratification (MRP) model weighted by age, race/ethnicity, gender, and educational attainment within each state. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 1 percentage points.