

# The Emerging Role of Pharmacies in Expanding Access to PrEP

## Presenters:

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# Overview for Today

<b>4:10 - 4:25</b>	PrEP Access in Washington State <i>-Opening Activity and Discussion</i>
<b>4:25 – 4:45</b>	Pharmacy Integration into PrEP and ART Provision and Retention (PIPAR) and the PrEP Pharmacy Programs
<b>4:45 – 5:35</b>	Essential Components of a PrEP Pharmacy Program <i>-Group Activity and Discussion</i>
<b>5:35 – 5:45</b>	Challenges and Lessons Learned
<b>5:45 – 6:00</b>	Q&A
<b>6:00</b>	Close

# PrEP Access in Washington State





# PrEP Uptake in Washington State Varies by Region



**King County: 37% using PrEP and 36% interested\***

**Other Western Washington: 20% using PrEP and 41% interested\***

**Eastern Washington: 22% using PrEP and 47% interested\***

\*Among high-risk men who have sex with men (MSM)

# Pharmacists' role in addressing PrEP needs in Washington

What is needed:

- Expand PrEP access and improve retention
  - Increased access in regions with poor PrEP coverage (PrEP deserts).
  - More and varied entry points to care.
  - Flexible hours (evenings, weekends, walk-in).
  - Decoupled from other medical care.
- More outreach and education

*“... pharmacies are the front door to the health system. They’re often where people start their health care journey and are a gateway to connection with other health care services.”*

*-Lucas Berenbrok, Pharm.D.*





## Activity: Pharmacists and You

With a partner, discuss where your closest pharmacy is, what type of pharmacy it is, do you have or know your pharmacist?





# Pharmacy Integration into PrEP and ART Provision and Retention (PIPAR) and the PrEP Pharmacy Programs



# Pharmacy Integration into PrEP and ART Provision and Retention (PIPAR) Demonstration Project (2017-2021)

- 4-year Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded Demonstration Project (*currently in 1-year no-cost extension*)
- Objective: Integrate pharmacies into public health efforts to expand PrEP and promote PrEP and HIV retention.



## Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Pharmacy-based Clinics

Now you can see a local pharmacist and start PrEP (a daily pill to help prevent HIV) the same day!

After your initial visit you will see your pharmacist:

- 1 month later (to make sure you are doing well on PrEP)
- Then every 3-months (to ensure that you continue to do well on PrEP)

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What do I need to bring:



Washington State Driver's License or Passport (*Or, any state Driver's License or photo ID is acceptable*)



Your Insurance card (medical and prescription)



Your PrEP DAP ID and Gilead Advancing Access Co-pay Card (if you have them)



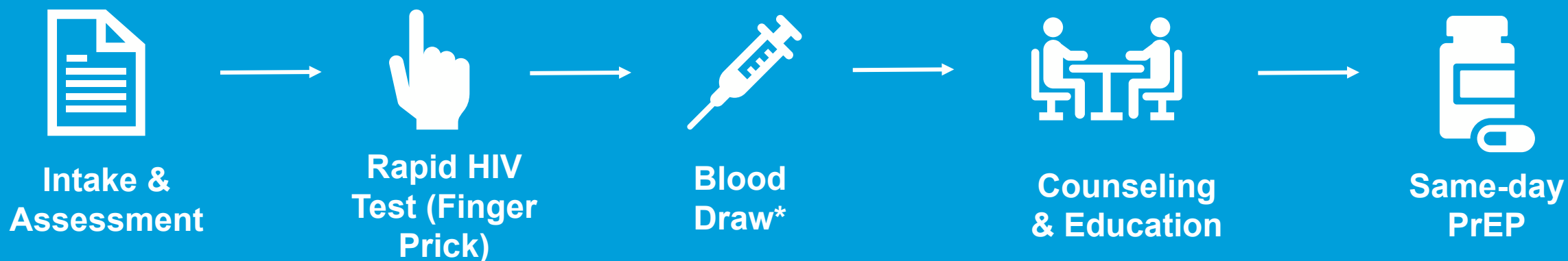
List of medications and immunization history





# PrEP Pharmacy Program Model: Initial Visit

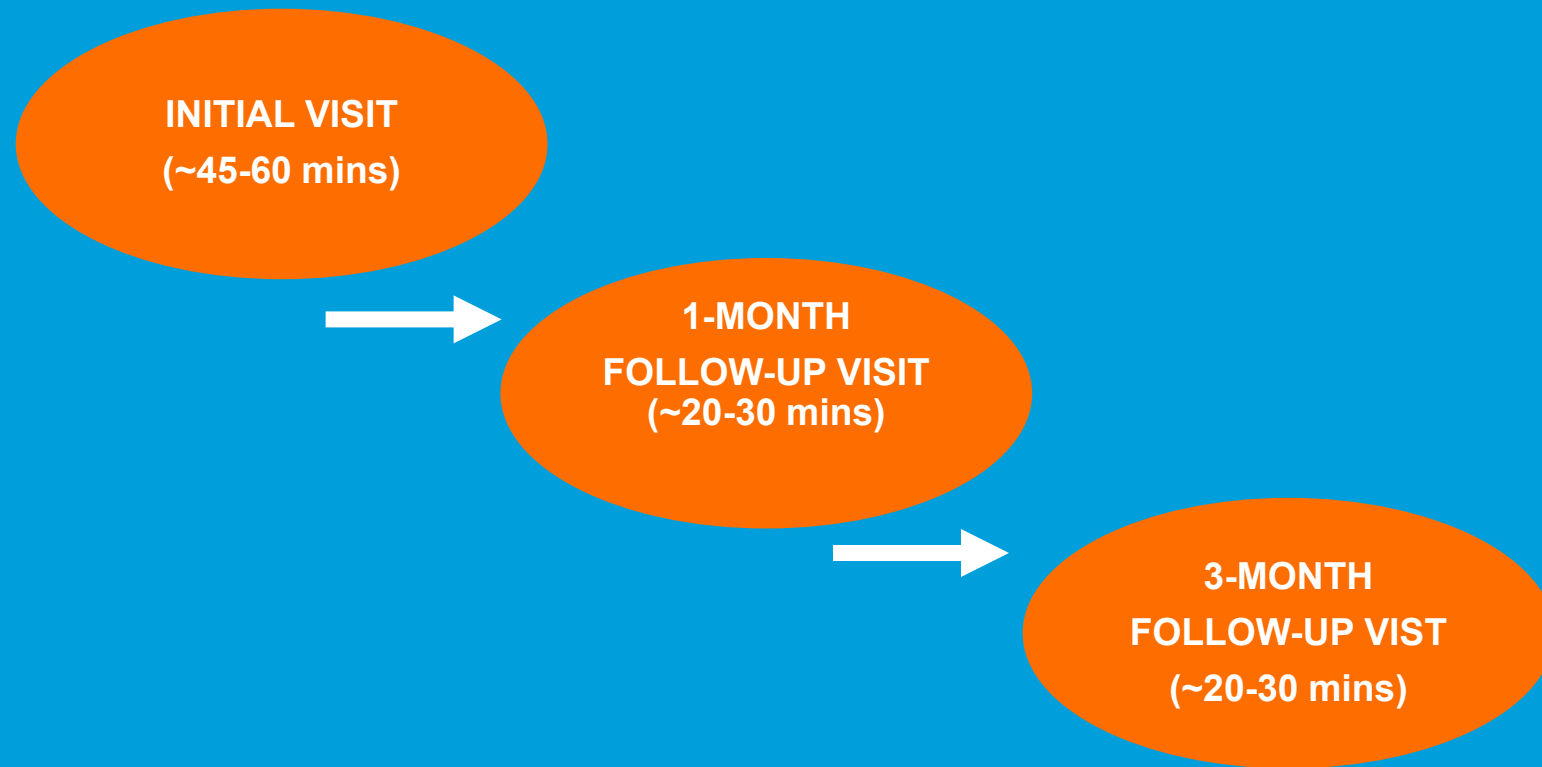
## Initial Visit



\*Treatment for STI (gonorrhea and chlamydia) can be provided at pharmacy

# PrEP Pharmacy Program Model: Follow-up care

- Abnormal labs and issues identified during assessments or counseling may require referral. Referrals and reports are sent to:
  - Clinicians and Providers
  - Local Health Jurisdictions
  - PrEP Navigation Agencies





# PrEP Pharmacy Programs

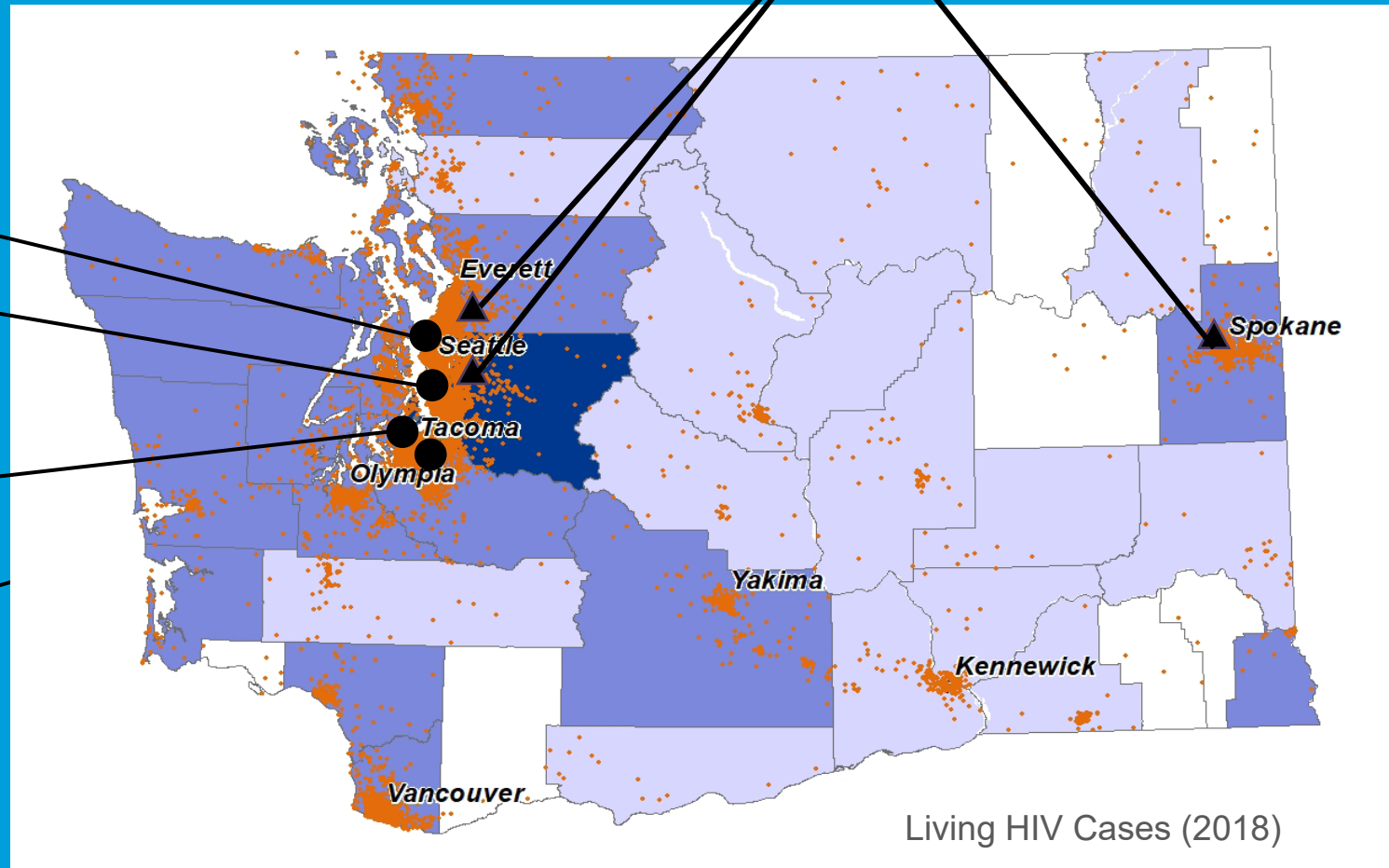
▲ New Pharmacies Launching in Fall/Winter 2022

AHF Pharmacy (Seattle, WA)

Safeway Pharmacy (Federal Way, WA)

Acts Pharmacy and Healthcare Services (Tacoma, WA)

Safeway Pharmacy (Lakewood, WA)



# PrEP Pharmacy Program Outcomes

(March – September  
2022)

	N (%)
<b>PrEP Prescribed</b>	
Initial Visit	10 (100%)
1-month	7 (70%)
3-month	4 (40%)
6-month	1 (10%)
PrEP stopped	1 (10%)
<b>Pharmacy Location</b>	
Seattle, WA	8 (80%)
Tacoma, WA	2 (20%)
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
Hispanic or Latino	2 (20%)
Non-Hispanic or Latino	8 (80%)
<b>Race</b>	
Black or African American	2 (20%)
White	7 (70%)
Multiracial	1 (10%)
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	8 (80%)
Transgender	1 (10%)
Nonbinary	1 (10%)

	N (%)
<b>Age</b>	
18-26	4 (40%)
27-35	3 (30%)
36-44	2 (20%)
45-55	1 (10%)
<b>Risk</b>	
HIV+ partner	1 (10%)
STI in last 6 months	4 (40%)
Low/no condom use	6 (60%)
Men who have sex with men (MSM)	7 (70%)
<b>Insurance/Payment</b>	
Medicaid	2 (20%)
Commercial	5 (50%)
PrEP DAP	4 (40%)
Uninsured	1 (10%)
<b>Referrals/Reporting</b>	
PrEP Navigator	1 (10%)
+ STI Cases	1 (10%)



# AHF Pharmacy

- **Overview:**
  - Launched March 2022
  - Located in Seattle, WA
- **PrEP Program Outcomes:**
  - 8 patients have initiated PrEP
  - 7 patients retained in care
  - 4 patients retained in care for >3 months
  - 4 patients vaccinated against Hepatitis B
  - 0 positive HIV or STI cases



# Acts Pharmacy and Healthcare Services

- **Overview:**
  - Launched March 2022
  - Located in Tacoma, WA
- **PrEP Program Outcomes:**
  - 2 patients have initiated PrEP
  - 2 patients retained in care
  - 1 patient connected to PrEP Navigation
  - 1 positive STI case reported to LHJ and connected to care





# Acts Pharmacy and Healthcare Services

## Patient Vignette

*Patient came into the pharmacy for a monkeypox vaccination.*

*Pharmacist talked to the patient about their PrEP pharmacy program. Patient then completed the online interest form.*

*Patient was connected with a PrEP Navigator for medical financial assistance, after which, the patient was scheduled for their initial PrEP visit at the pharmacy and patient initiated PrEP the same day.*

Acts Pharmacy & Healthcare Services HIV  
PreP Interest Form

1901 S Union Ave., Building B Ste 2011, Tacoma, WA 98405

NEXT →

HIPAA  
COMPLIANT

PrEP Intake Form [PREVIEW](#)

Please complete the Intake questions no more than 24-48 hours before your upcoming visit at Acts Pharmacy and Healthcare Services. Answering these questions ahead of your visit will help streamline the visit. If you cannot complete it all before the visit, you will be able to complete it at the pharmacy.

Today's date

First name

Maximum of 500 characters allowed.

Last name

# Safeway Pharmacies

- **Overview:**
  - Launched February 2022
  - Two locations: Federal Way, WA & Lakewood, WA
- **PrEP Program Experience**
  - Pharmacists excitedly awaiting first patients!
  - Locations added to county and state PrEP provider lists.
  - Information shared via social media, health fairs, and local street fairs.
  - In the process of setting up PrEP DAP billing.
  - Exploring new opportunities to raise awareness and decrease patient cost.



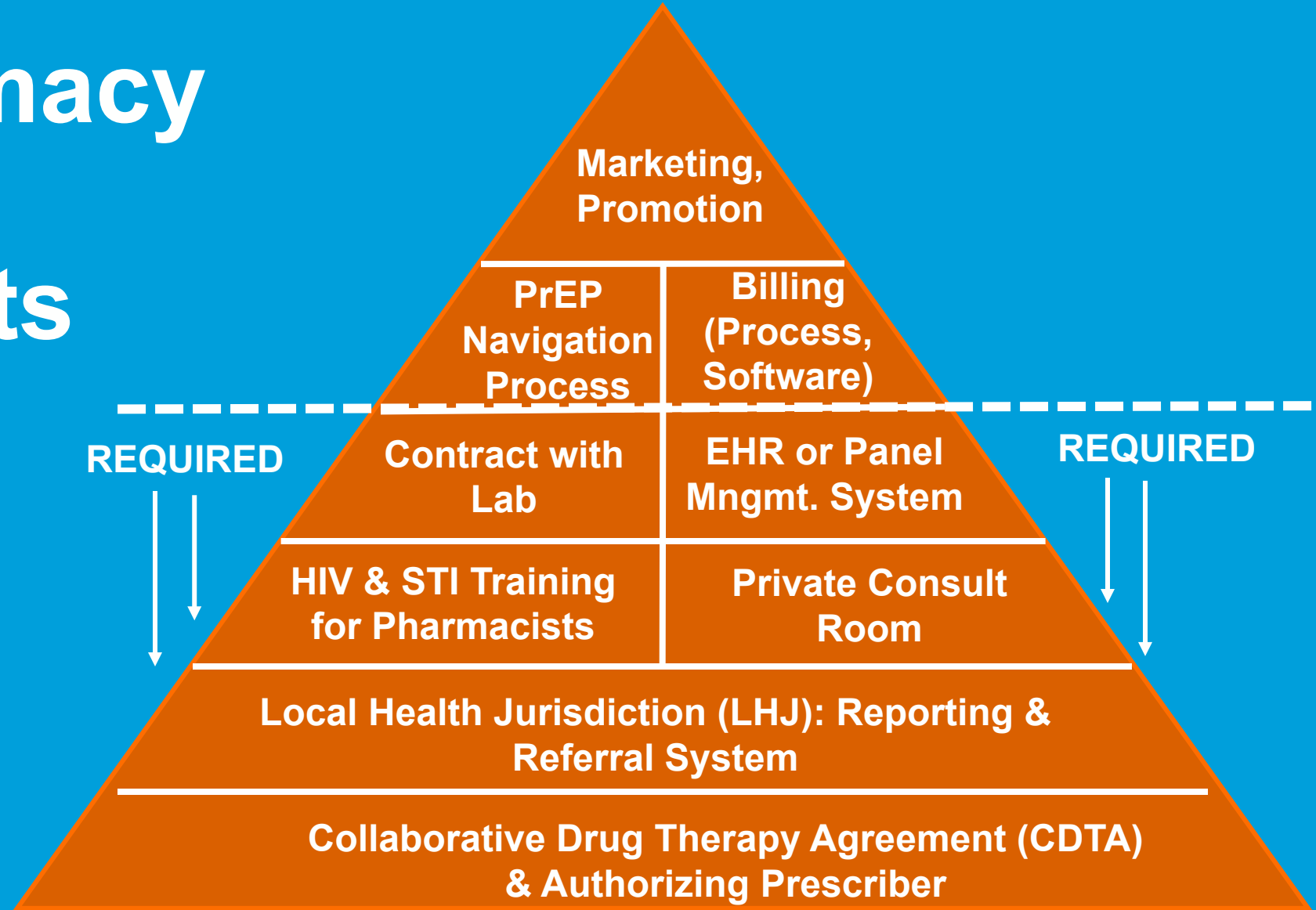
# Essential Components of a PrEP Pharmacy Program



Optional text here



# PrEP Pharmacy Program Components



# The Collaborative Drug Therapy Agreement (CDTA)

- A CDTA is a signed agreement between one licensed healthcare provider (*the Authorized Prescriber*) and one or more pharmacists (WAC 246-945-350)
- Oversight: Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission (PQAC), Department of Health

## HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Collaborative Drug Therapy Agreement Protocol

**Authorized Prescriber:** Matthew Golden, MD, MPH is an active, licensed physician authorized to prescribe medications in Washington State, and working in the Public Health – Seattle & King County STD Clinic. The authority granted here is within the scope of his current practice.

**Pharmacists:** The pharmacists who are party to this agreement, \_\_\_\_\_, are licensed pharmacists who work at \_\_\_\_\_ Pharmacy in \_\_\_\_\_, WA.

**Time Period:** This agreement shall remain in effect for two years unless rescinded earlier in writing by either the authorized practitioner or by the individual pharmacist(s). Any changes in the protocol or procedures described below must be made via a substitute written agreement.

**Type of Prescriptive Authority:** To help prevent HIV infection, this agreement enables the pharmacists to both initiate and modify drug therapy for patients/customers 35kg and over who are at risk for HIV to obtain PrEP medication, and to provide appropriate, ongoing monitoring. The pharmacists are hereby authorized to prescribe and administer medications and order labs necessary for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with emtricitabine-tenofovir disoproxil fumarate according to the protocol below. Under consultation with Dr. Golden only; the pharmacists are also authorized to prescribe emtricitabine and tenofovir alafenamide.

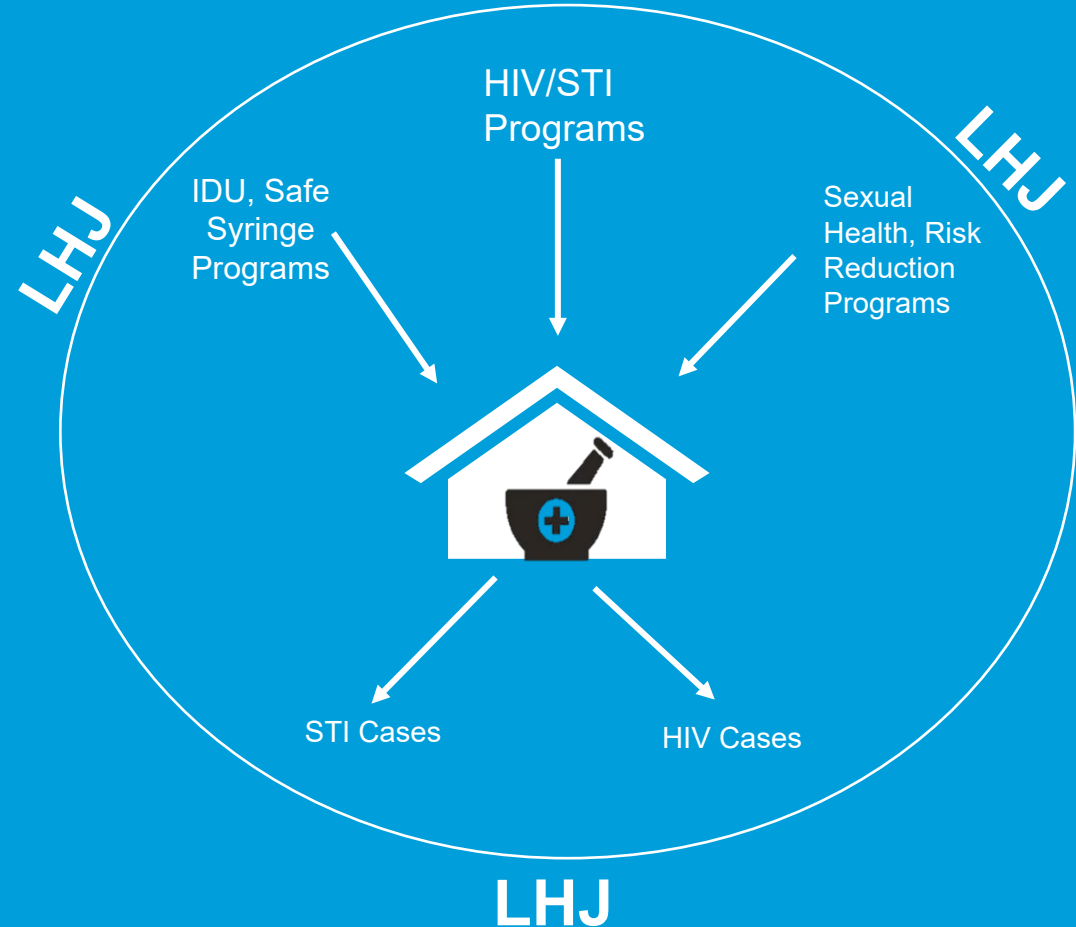
This protocol is in accordance with local standard of care, and the laws and regulations of the State of Washington (RCW Chapter 18.64; WAC 246-945-350). Pharmacists providing HIV PrEP services under this protocol will follow these procedures as the standard of care.

### Protocol: |

1. When a patient requests HIV PrEP or is referred to the pharmacy for HIV PrEP consultation, the pharmacist initially will:
  1. Assess the patient's risk for HIV acquisition;
  2. Assess the patient's underlying medical conditions, current medications, drug allergies, immunization history, and risk for bacterial sexually transmitted infections (STI);
  3. Assess for signs and symptoms of acute HIV infection (i.e., fever, particularly if accompanied with sore throat, persistent fatigue, rash, or diarrhea, and sexual- or injection- exposure in the last 4-6 weeks);If the patient has signs or symptoms of acute HIV infection, the pharmacist shall not prescribe PrEP but rather shall take the following actions immediately:

# Interaction with LHJs: Reporting and Referrals

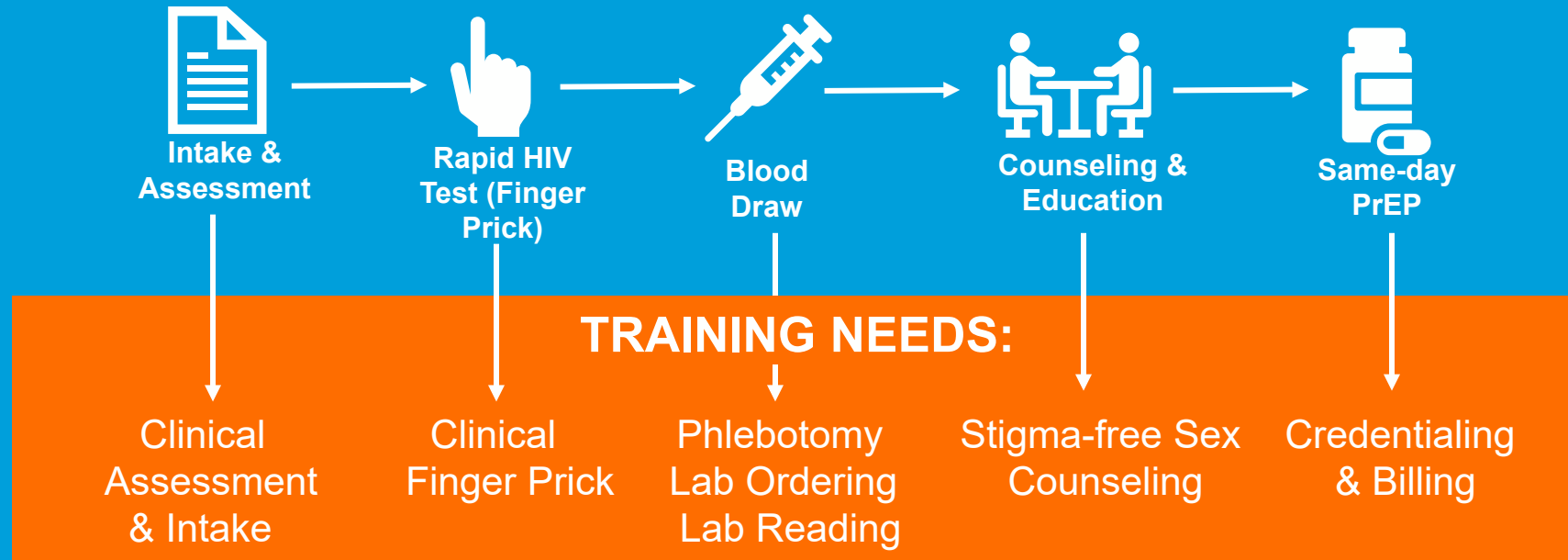
- Setting up a referral system with the LHJ can be mutually beneficial.
- Understanding local laws/policies for reporting of HIV, STI, and infectious diseases is critical (WAC 246-101).





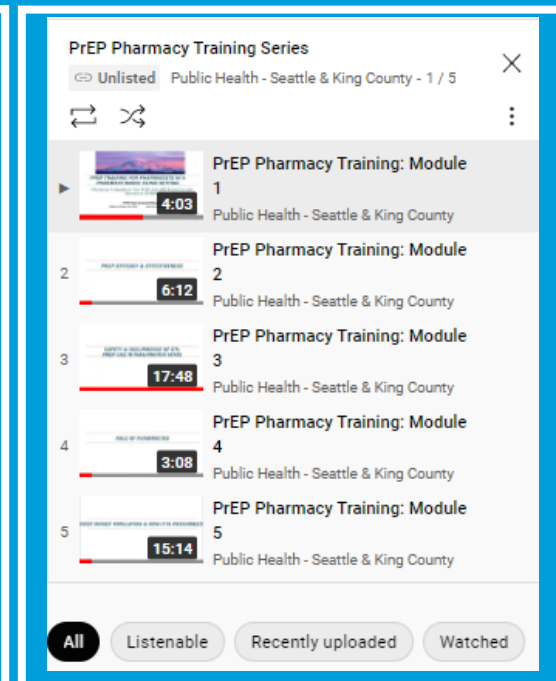
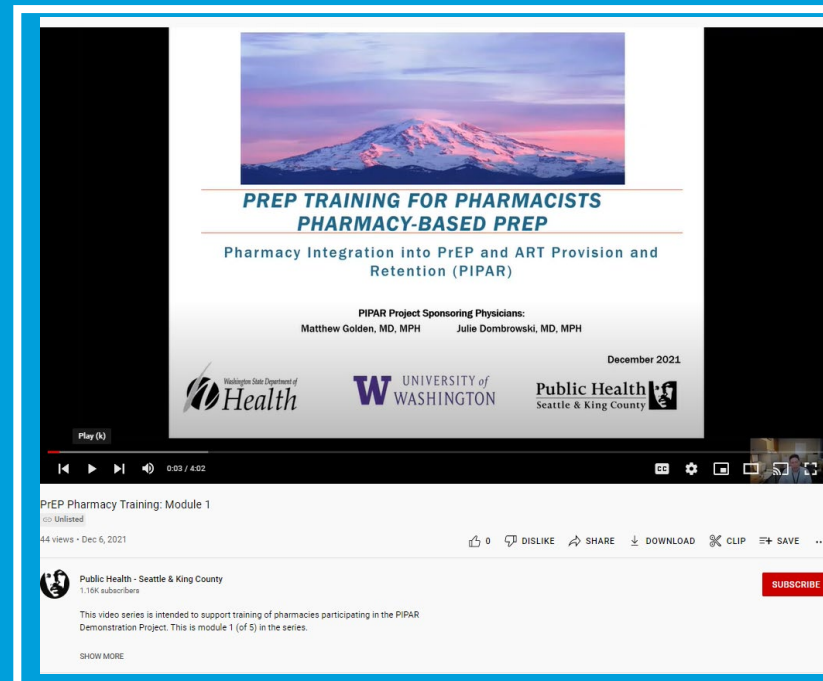
# Training: What is needed?

## Initial Visit



# HIV/STI Training for Pharmacists

- National HIV and PrEP Curriculum (hiv.uw.edu)
- PIPAR PrEP Pharmacy Training Series: 5-part video training series
- Mountain West AIDS Education & Training Center Program (MWAETC)
- Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA)



# Contracting with a Lab and Conducting the Rapid HIV Test

- Lab can bill most commercial and public plans
- Lab can process required panel of labs\*
- Portal/Account for lab results
- Ensure Medical Test Site Certificate of Waiver License (CLIA Waiver) is in place for Rapid HIV Test

\*Cost of lab services can be negotiated based on how many patients the clinic sees





# Electronic Health Record or Panel Management System

- A PrEP Pharmacy Program will collect the following types of health information:
  - Demographics
  - Medical History, Sexual History
  - Sexual Health Risk Assessment
  - Lab Results
  - Medication and Immunization Administration
  - PrEP prescription
  - PrEP discontinuation

**Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Self-screening Form**

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Name (First, Last): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chosen Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Language(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Interpreter Services Needed   
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Pronouns: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sex Assigned at Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Kg Ib (circle one)  
Ethnicity: Hispanic Non-Hispanic Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ cm in (circle one)

Primary Medical Insurance Plan: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy / Group Number: \_\_\_\_\_/  
Subscriber's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subscriber's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Subscriber: \_\_\_\_\_

Prescription Drug Plan: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Group / BIN / PCN Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subscriber's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subscriber's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Subscriber: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are concerned about ability to pay for services or your copay, talk to the pharmacist about being connected to a PrEP Navigator.

**ACTS PHARMACY AND HEALTHCARE SERVICES**

**PrEP Pharmacy Program: Screening Form**

Please complete these questions *no more than 24-48 hours before* your upcoming visit at Acts Pharmacy and Healthcare Services.

Answering these questions ahead of your visit will help streamline the visit.

If you cannot complete it all before the visit, you will be able to complete it at the pharmacy.

Today's date  Today M-D-Y  
\* must provide value MM-DD-YYYY

**Information about you**

What is your first name?   
\* must provide value

What is your last name?   
\* must provide value

Do you have a nickname or other name you prefer to be called?

Please enter your address (street address, city, state, and zip code)  
\* must provide value

Returning? A A A



# PrEP Navigation

- PrEP Navigators can promote retention within a PrEP Pharmacy Program. Pharmacist attempt to link all PrEP clients to a PrEP Navigator.
- PrEP Navigation is the provision of: Health education, risk reduction, health insurance enrollment, payor program navigation, medication adherence support & counseling, etc.

## PrEP Navigation Services

### Promoting and Improving PrEP Adherence among Your Patients

Although PrEP is highly effective at preventing HIV infection and resources exist for most to attain it, the attrition of patients is very high due to a complicated and confusing process for accessing and staying on PrEP (insurance, etc.). PrEP Navigators can help your patients with confusing applications and processes related to accessing and staying on PrEP. Contact a PrEP Navigator below for assistance.

<b>Lifelong</b> <i>(For King County Providers &amp; Patients)</i>	<b>Pierce County AIDS Foundation (PCAF)</b> <i>(For Pierce County Providers &amp; Patients)</i>
Phone: (206) 957-1610	Phone: (253) 693-0225
Fax: (206) 257-3300	Fax: (253) 597-6682

### PrEP Navigation Overview:

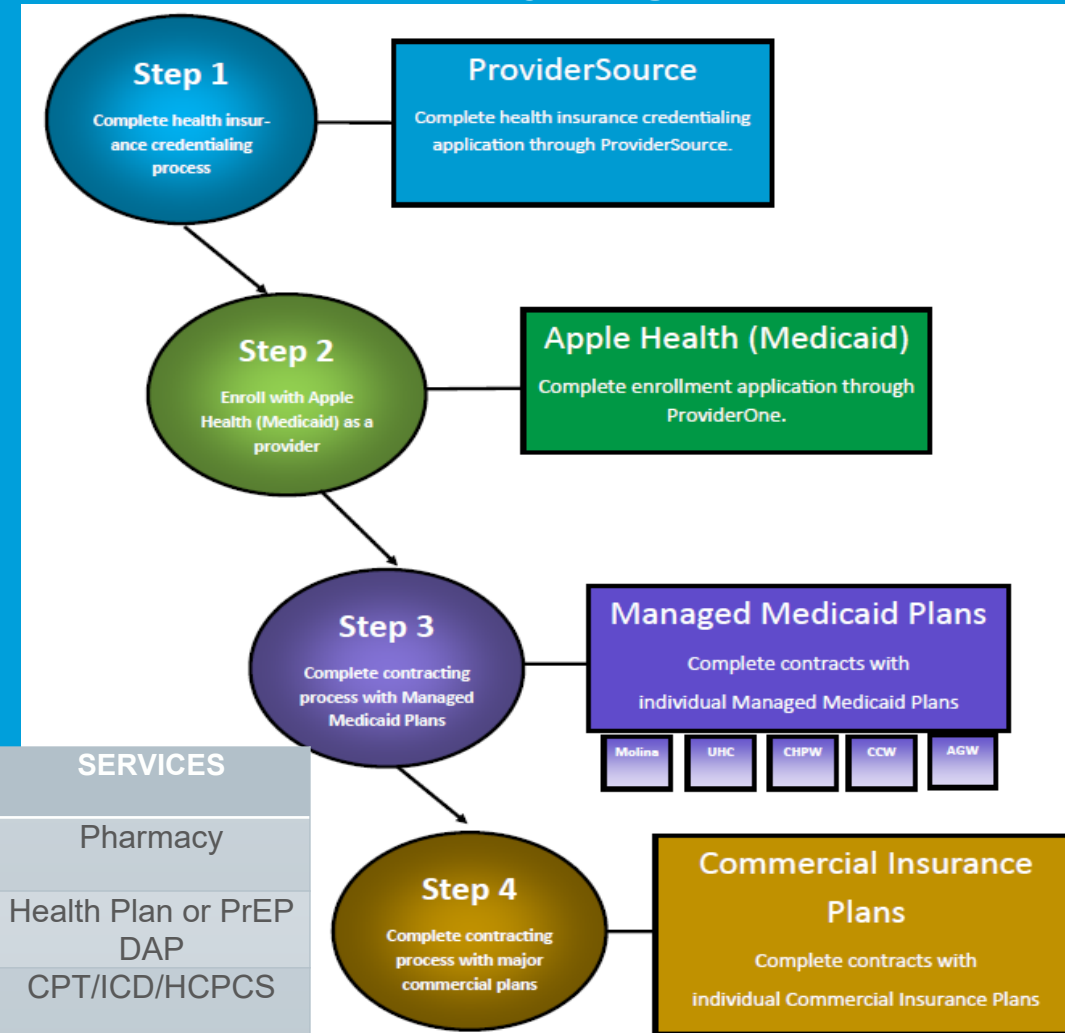
- PrEP Navigators are located within the community, at PrEP Navigation agencies across the state.
- PrEP Navigators can help with financial assistance applications, enrollment into the PrEP Drug Assistance Program (PrEP DAP), Gilead Advancing Access, Apple Health/Medicaid, and other health insurance plans.
- Navigators will have on-going interaction and continued engagement with patients, ensuring they receive regular HIV testing, medical care, and adhere to PrEP medication.
- PrEP Navigators provide the following:
  - Linkage to health insurance and/or other financial resources, including application assistance and monitoring.

# Billing for Medical Services

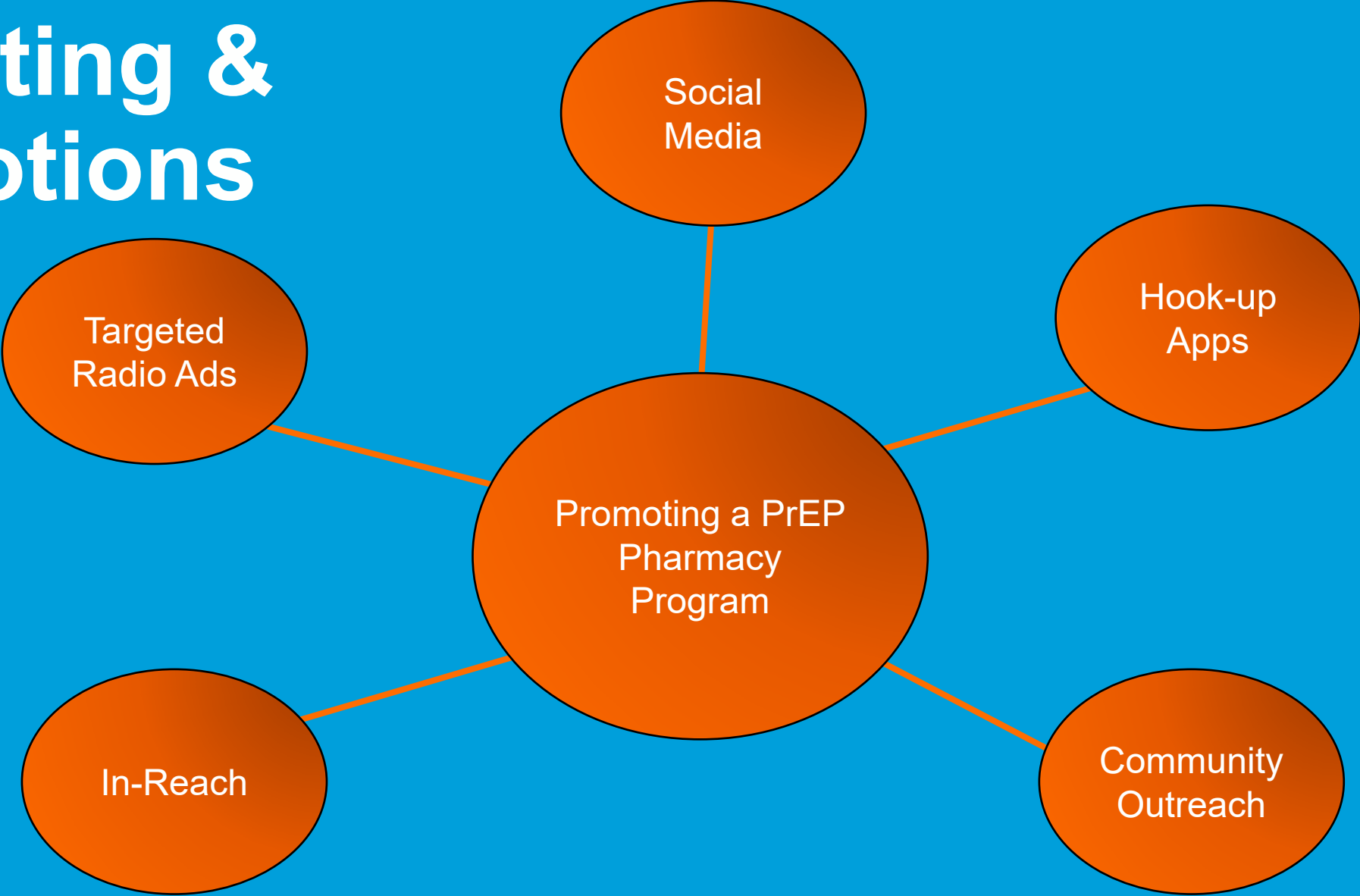
- In Washington state, pharmacists can become credentialed to bill for medical services. (ESSB 5557)
- Washington State's PrEP Drug Assistance Program (PrEP DAP) is a patient assistance fund that pharmacists and patients can use to help cover costs of medical services.
- Billing for medical services will be a new learning for pharmacists.

	MEDS/DRUG	LABS	SERVICES
<b>Who Bills:</b>	Pharmacy	Lab	Pharmacy
<b>Bills To:</b>	PBM	Health Plan	Health Plan or PrEP DAP
<b>Billing Code(s)</b>	NDC	CPT/ICD/HCPCS	CPT/ICD/HCPCS

## Health Insurance Credentialing Pathway for PrEP pharmacy programs



# Marketing & Promotions





# Marketing & Promotions



**Start PrEP for HIV prevention today.**

Now available at select local pharmacies in King and Pierce counties.

Public Health Seattle & King County 

PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is medicine people at risk for HIV take to prevent getting HIV from sex or injection drug use.



**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Taking a pill a day can prevent HIV!

**PrEP**

You can see a pharmacist to start PrEP today!

For more information on participating pharmacies scan the QR code or visit:  
[www.doh.wa.gov/HIVPrEPPharmacy](http://www.doh.wa.gov/HIVPrEPPharmacy)



**Start PrEP for HIV prevention today.**

Now available at select local pharmacies in King and Pierce counties.

PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is medicine people at risk for HIV take to prevent getting HIV from sex or injection drug use.







# Activity: Anatomy of a PrEP Pharmacy Program



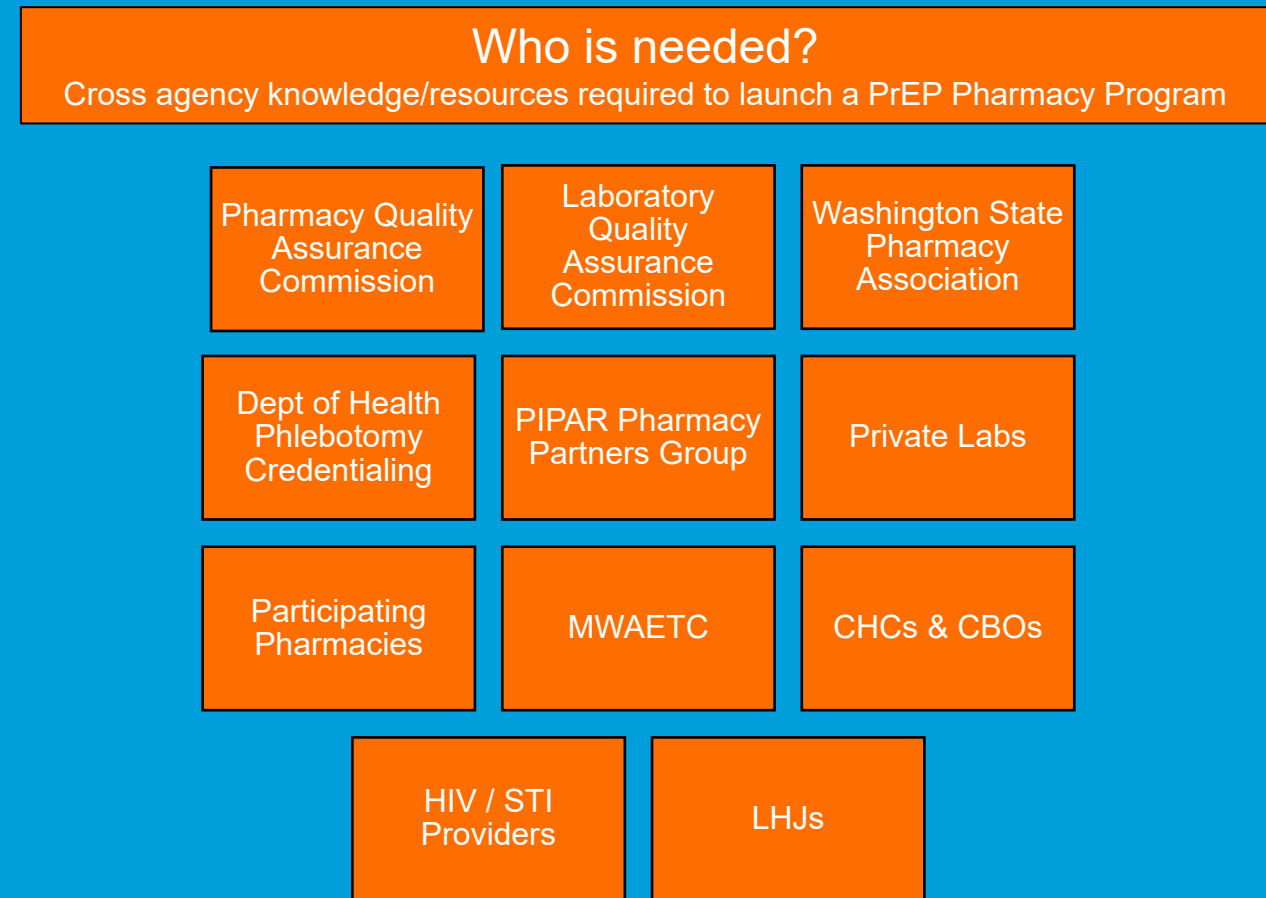


# Challenges and Lessons Learned



# Challenges

- Required knowledge, resources, and expertise from multiple agencies and organizations (lengthy planning/implementation period).
- Difficulty getting patients into programs once launched.
- Need for more training and education resources on credentialing and billing processes.
- Onsite blood-draw model may not be feasible for some pharmacies.





# Lessons Learned

- Not a rapid intervention.
- Establish point of contact with pharmacy commissions, boards, and major stakeholders early.
- Start marketing and promotion efforts early.
- Define clear roles & responsibilities with community partners (referring sites, PrEP Navigators) early.
- ***More outcomes data and evaluation are needed to understand if pharmacy-based PrEP delivery is an effective intervention.***



# Q&A

# Thank You!

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# Resources

- Washington State Department of Health and Public Health Seattle & King County HIV/AIDS Report (2021): <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/communicable-diseases/hiv-std/patients/epidemiology.aspx>
- End AIDS Washington, PrEP Provider Database: <https://endaids.washington.org/getprep/>
- PIPAR PrEP Pharmacy Program Webpage: <https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/illness-and-disease-z/hiv/prevention/pre-exposure-prophylaxis-prep/hiv-prep-pharmacy-based-pilot-program>
- Collaborative Drug Therapy Agreement: Policy and Process in Washington State: <https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs//690212.pdf>
- Credentialing and Pharmacist's Provider Status in Washington State:
  - Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5557: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5557&Year=2015&Initiative=False>
  - Landmark Legislation (ESSB 5557): <https://www.wsparx.org/news/230992/ESSB-5557---WSPA-Alert-Landmark-Provider-Status-Legislation-Signed-by-Governor-Inslee.htm>
- Washington's PrEP DAP Program: <https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/illness-and-disease-z/hiv/prevention/pre-exposure-prophylaxis-drug-assistance-program-prep-dap>
- Washington State PrEP Navigation: <https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs//150-083-PrEPNavigatorsWA.pdf>
- Training and Educational Resources:
  - PIPAR PrEP Pharmacy Training Modules: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvdmG8argQHnq-W2mw2VJg\\_3PFr\\_LJM9e](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvdmG8argQHnq-W2mw2VJg_3PFr_LJM9e)
  - National HIV Curriculum: <https://www.hiv.uw.edu/>
  - Washington State Pharmacy Association's Billing for Patient Care Services: <https://www.wsparx.org/page/BillingServices>
  - NASTAD Billing Coding Guide for HIV Prevention: <https://nastad.org/resources/billing-coding-guide-hiv-prevention>
  - Mountain West AIDS Education & Training Center Program: <https://mwaetc.org/>
- Communicable Diseases Reporting Requirements in Washington State: <https://doh.wa.gov/public-health-healthcare-providers/notifiable-conditions/how-report-posters>

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