

## College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists Foundation Announces Launch of <u>The Mental Health Pharmacy Directory</u>

The CPNP Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of a website dedicated to recognizing mental health pharmacies in the United States. This searchable directory is located at <u>mentalhealthpharmacies.com</u>. Support for the development of this valuable resource was provided by Otsuka.

The CPNP Foundation believes that being able to access pharmacists in mental health pharmacies can provide an important option to individuals living with mental illness (and their caregivers) who may not be getting the most out of their medications. The Mental Health Pharmacy Directory website has been designed to introduce consumers to the services and benefits of mental health pharmacies and most importantly, provide them with a searchable directory.

Over 850 pharmacies have completed an online survey indicating the mental health related services they provide and confirming that they provide a minimum level of these specialized services such as long-acting injectable administration and clozapine monitoring. Consumers can search the directory to find a mental health pharmacy in their area and see a listing of the specific mental health services they provide.

Project lead **Charles Caley, PharmD, BCPP**, University of Connecticut, notes that "*The CPNP Foundation believes that individuals with mental health conditions should expect to engage a community pharmacist when needed, in order to best understand their medications and how to get the greatest benefit from them. It is important to acknowledge that individuals with mental health conditions are free to use any community pharmacy (or mail order pharmacy) to obtain their prescription medications. However, the realities of high prescription volumes and busy, non-private environments makes it difficult for many individuals to access the knowledge, skill and support of community pharmacists. In such instances, those individuals should consider changing their community pharmacy to one that can fully meet their medication needs. Mental health pharmacies should be among the community pharmacies these individuals consider.*"

Individuals are encouraged to recommend pharmacies in their community who meet the <u>definition</u> of a mental health pharmacy. A brief <u>referral form</u> is available at mentalhealthpharmacies.com. Your assistance in growing this beneficial resource is appreciated.

The CPNP Foundation envisions a world in which individuals with psychiatric and neurologic disorders receive optimal treatment, live free of stigma, and achieve their full potential. Our mission focuses on the needs of individuals living with psychiatric and neurologic disorders, their families, and health professionals in general practice settings to further evidence-based treatment.