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Excellence in Innovation Award Presented to Reeves for Work in Outpatient Pharmacogenetic Testing

Andrew J. Reeves of Kalamazoo will receive the Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) Excellence in Innovation Award during the Association's Annual Convention & Exposition, held Feb. 24-26 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.

To be deserving of this award, sponsored by Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc., a pharmacist or team of pharmacists must demonstrate an innovative pharmacy practice program that results in improved patient care. This award highlights the work and efforts of pharmacy pioneers who are re-engineering the pharmacy profession to meet the healthcare needs of tomorrow's patients.

Since 1994, Reeves has been co-owner and chief executive officer of OptiMed Specialty Pharmacy in Kalamazoo. He is also co-owner of several other healthcare entities including Keystone Pharmacy in Grand Rapids as well as Bionourisso and Armonyum in San Jose del Cabo, Mexico. He has spent his career working to serve patients in the most efficient means possible and works to ensure patient adherence to medication treatments. Reeves' work pushes the profession of pharmacy forward and demonstrates how pharmacists directly impact the treatment success for patients.

In an effort to best serve patients, Reeves has focused on provided exceptional patient-centered care. He has worked to think outside the normal constraints of the pharmacy profession to deliver innovative and unique practices all aimed to increase medication adherence and enhanced disease management. Namely, Reeves was instrumental in bring pharmacogenetics testing into outpatient treatment. He worked to create models of pharmacogenetic testing that includes a pharmacist's interpretation resulting in patients having a full understanding of their medication profile and any drug-drug and drug-disease interactions. Reeves' dedication to this project is providing further avenues to expand the role of the pharmacist on the healthcare team.

Beyond his push for outpatient pharmacogenetics testing, Reeves works to reduce the cost and strain on the healthcare system while simultaneously providing adherence improving services to patients. Recently, Reeves collaborated with Captify Health's Enhanced Recovering After Surgery (ERAS) program which works to bring patients critical medication information in an easier to interpret and timely manner. This includes medication supplies delivered in patient-friendly packaging at the appropriate time in their treatment regime.

Reeves continues his work outside of the pharmacy as an exceptional advocate for the profession and its advancement. He was involved on the Pharmacy Political Action Council Board of Directors from 2012-2014, member of the MPA Third Party Committee for six years, is current on the Pharmacy Advocacy Response Team and has over ten years of serving the Southwest Michigan Pharmacists Association in various roles including president and delegate. His involvement in advocacy and ability to connect with legislators was essential in the introduction of the recent Michigan Senate Bill 1151 – Pharmacy Benefit Manager Transparency Bill. Pharmacists like Reeves not only impact the pharmacy standards of practice for the better, but continue to create more effective and efficient healthcare systems that involve pharmacists and the entire healthcare team.

Michigan Pharmacists Association, representing the nearly 9,000 pharmacists and 15,000 pharmacy technicians in Michigan, strives to serve members by providing support, advocacy and resources that ultimately improve patient care, safety, health and the practice of pharmacy. For more information, visit www.MichiganPharmacists.org.

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