



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Award Presented to Gregory Pratt for Advancing the Role of Pharmacy Professionals

Gregory Pratt of DeWitt will receive the Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) Excellence in Innovation Award during the Association's Annual Convention & Exposition, held Feb. 23-25 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 our profession to meet the healthcare needs of tomorrow's patients.

Since earning his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from Ferris State University in 1984, Pratt has dedicated a significant portion of his pharmacy career to educating and equipping pharmacists for their role in emergency preparedness efforts. Currently Pratt is a staff pharmacist with Sparrow Pharmacy Plus in Lansing, but he previously spent 10 years ensuring pharmacists are prepared for the active role they play in emergency efforts.

Mostly notably, Pratt served as MPA's emergency preparedness coordinator from 2006 to 2016. In this role, Pratt coordinated efforts between pharmacies, the state and MPA activities that promoted the role of pharmacy professionals in emergency situations. He was directly involved with planning for the dispensing of medications from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) in the event of a large-scale emergency event and strategies for mass immunization during the H1N1 virus outbreak. Over the years, Pratt has provided numerous presentations to pharmacists throughout the state regarding mass dispensing of the SNS, bioterrorism and pharmacy, radiation countermeasures and pharmaceutical response to emergencies. Pratt was also instrumental in offering lead blood level testing to the Flint communities impacted by unsafe drinking water. Through Pratt's work in emergency preparedness, Michigan pharmacies are better equipped to serve patients during emergencies of all types. He has helped create a template for how the state's emergency preparedness efforts and pharmacies can work together to ensure the positive health outcomes of Michigan's citizens. His work has been adopted as a standard for other states across the country.

Pratt's involvement in the Association extends beyond his work in emergency preparedness as he has dedicated much of his time outside of the pharmacy leading other professionals and students in advancing pharmacy practice. He is the previous recipient of the Young Pharmacist of the Year Award in 1993, the Fred W. Arnold Public Relations Award in 1997 and the Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists Professional Practice Award in 2010 as well as being inducted into the MPA Pharmacy Hall of Honor in 2013. Pratt has also served as the chair of the MPA Membership Committee and chair of the MPA Public Affairs Committee. His ongoing commitment to advancing the role of the pharmacist and ensuring all pharmacy professionals are able to provide appropriate care when needed idealizes pharmacy innovation that ensures the strength of the profession for years to come.

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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