

## **OCMS Position Statement for Retail Health Clinics**

We believe that the highest quality of care is provided to the community when an ongoing relationship is maintained between physician and patient, to ensure not only appropriate diagnosis and treatment of illness but also continuity of care.

Recognizing that retail health clinics do not provide continuity of care as demonstrated in the physician office setting, each clinic should by law provide the minimum standards of care as defined by the American Medical Association.

OCMS also strongly supports establishment of the following minimum standards:

- The supervising physician of each retail health clinic should be licensed and reside in the state of Michigan, to allow regulation and oversight of the clinical performance by the appropriate state regulators.
- Retail health clinics operating in the State of Michigan should be compelled to meet the same health and safety standards as all other outpatient medical facilities, including physician offices, urgent care centers and outpatient clinics.
- Retail health clinics operating in the State of Michigan should maintain patient medical records in compliance with Michigan's Public Act 481.
- All Certified Nurse Practitioners (CNPs) who work in retail health clinics should have a collaborative/supervisory relationship with a licensed Michigan physician residing in Michigan.

- **Guidelines as established by the American Medical Association**

- Store-based health clinics must have a well-defined and limited scope of clinical services, consistent with state scope of practice laws.

- Store-based health clinics must use standardized medical protocols derived from evidence-based practice guidelines to insure patient safety and quality of care.

- Store-based health clinics must establish arrangements by which their health care practitioners have direct access to and supervision by those with medical degrees (MD and DO) as consistent with state laws.

- Store-based health clinics must establish protocols for ensuring continuity of care with practicing physicians within the local community.

- Store-based health clinics must establish a referral system with physician practices or other facilities for appropriate treatment if the patient's conditions or symptoms are beyond the scope of services provided by the clinic.

- Store-based health clinics must clearly inform patients in advance of the qualifications of the health care practitioners who are providing care, as well as any limitation in the types of illnesses that can be diagnosed and treated.

- Store-based health clinics must establish appropriate sanitation and hygienic guidelines and facilities to insure the safety of patients.

- Store-based health clinics should be encouraged to use electronic health records as a means of communicating patient information and facilitating continuity of care.

- Store-based health clinics should encourage patients to establish care with a primary care physician to ensure continuity of care.