



Growth. Performance. Success. NCPA 2025 ANNUAL CONVENTION



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Empowering Trust:

The Pharmacist's Role in Navigating Health Information With Patients



NCPA 2025 Annual Convention and Expo

Speakers



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Disclosure Statement

There are no relevant financial relationships with ACPE defined commercial interests for anyone who was in control of the content of the activity.





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Pharmacist and Technician Learning Objectives

- 1. Identify common sources of health information and their influence on patient behavior.
- 2. Discuss communication approaches to clarify complex topics and encourage open dialogue.
- 3. Recognize credible, evidence-based resources to support patient education and informed decision-making.



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Infodemic

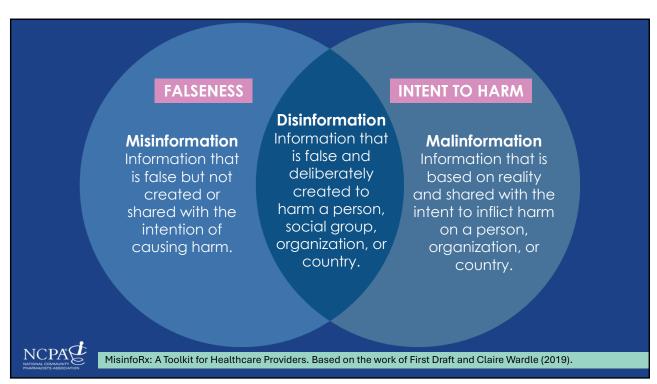
too much information including **false or misleading** information in digital and physical environments during a disease outbreak

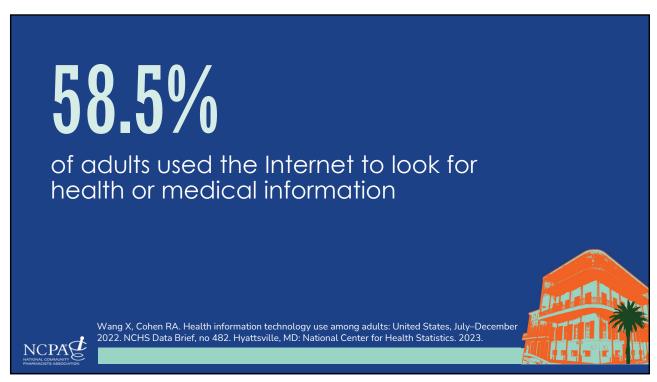
- Causes confusion and risk-taking behaviours
- Leads to mistrust in health authorities
- Undermines the public health response

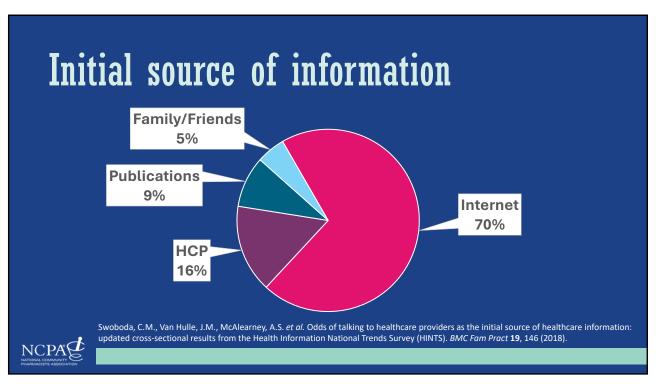


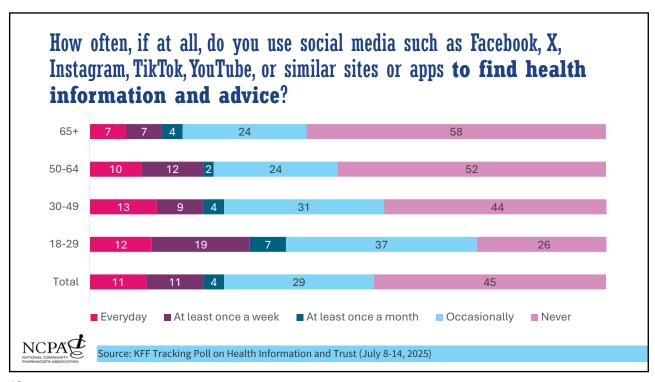
WHO. Infodemics. https://www.who.int/health-topics/infodemic#tab=tab_1. Accessed 10/8/2025.

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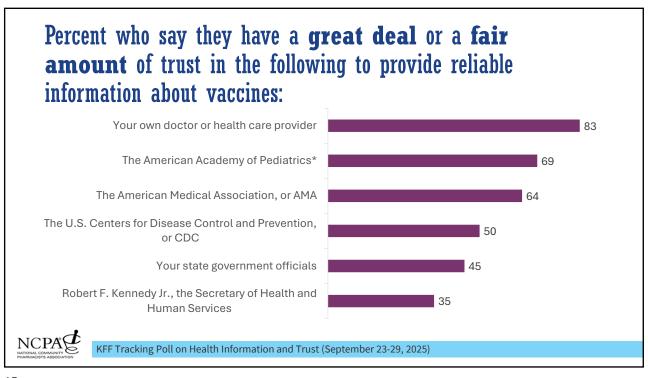


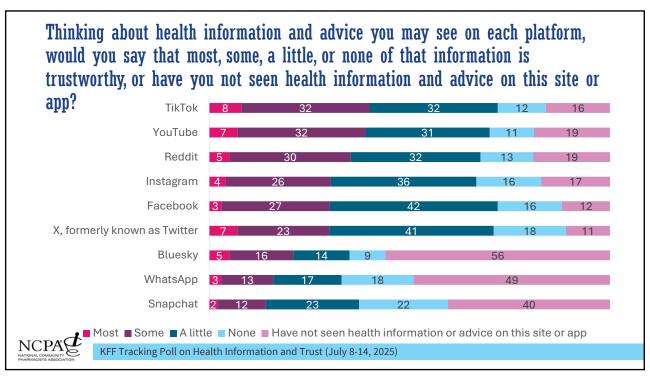












Barriers to Trust

- Cultural and language differences
- Systemic inequities
 - Justified mistrust from historical events (e.g., U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study at Tuskegee)
- Health literacy
- Gaslighting
- Intergenerational influence



Shukla M, Schilt-Solberg M, Gibson-Scipio W. Medical Mistrust: A Concept Analysis. Nurs Rep. 2025 Mar 17;15(3):103.

Consequences of Mistrust

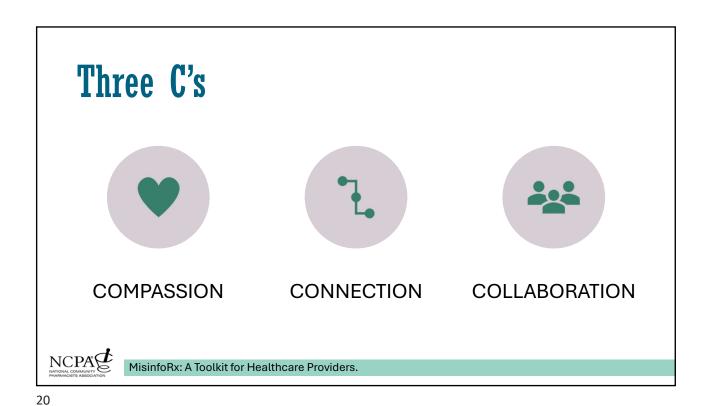
- Underutilization of health services
- Lack of adherence
- · Delayed diagnosis and treatment
- Poor health outcomes
- Psychological/emotional distress
- Uptake of misinformation
- Maladaptive and dysfunctional health behaviors



Shukla M, Schilt-Solberg M, Gibson-Scipio W. Medical Mistrust: A Concept Analysis. Nurs Rep. 2025 Mar 17;15(3):103.

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AIMS Method

PC

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ANNOUNCE

INQUIRE

MIRROR

SECURE

NCPA C

Trusted Messenger Program. The TMP Training Series / Lessons / 1. Taking AIMS: How to Handle, and Overcome, Patient Resistance.

Announce

Make a clear, confident, presumptive recommendation

"Would you like to receive a flu shot today?"

VS.

"Based on your age and history of diabetes, I recommend that you get your flu shot today."



Trusted Messenger Program. The TMP Training Series / Lessons / 1. Taking AIMS: How to Handle, and Overcome, Patient Resistance.

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Inquire

- Ask about, and actively listen to, patient concerns
 - "What concerns you about receiving the flu vaccine?"
- Don't interrupt
 - On average it takes providers 11-23 seconds to interrupt
- Avoid using fear or data



1. Marvel MK, Epstein RM, Flowers K, Beckman HB. Soliciting the Patient's Agenda: Have We Improved? *JAMA*. 1999;281(3):283–287. 2. Singh Ospina, N., Phillips, K.A., Rodriguez-Gutierrez, R. et al. Eliciting the Patient's Agenda- Secondary Analysis of Recorded Clinical Encounters. *J GEN INTERN MED* 34, 36–40 (2019).

3. Trusted Messenger Program. The TMP Training Series / Lessons / 1. Taking AIMS: How to Handle, and Overcome, Patient Resistance.

Mirror

- Repeat back the patient's words and concerns and ask if you got it right
- Be empathetic and form a connection
- · Validate feelings, not misinformation

"If I thought taking Tylenol during pregnancy caused autism, I would be scared too."



Trusted Messenger Program. The TMP Training Series / Lessons / 1. Taking AIMS: How to Handle, and Overcome, Patient Resistance.

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Secure

- Re-establish and strengthen patient trust in the end, no matter the outcome.
- Ask permission to respond, then keep it brief and positive.
- Thank patients for sharing and for listening, even if they say no.



Trusted Messenger Program. The TMP Training Series / Lessons / 1. Taking AIMS: How to Handle, and Overcome, Patient Resistance.

Trust Beyond the Counter

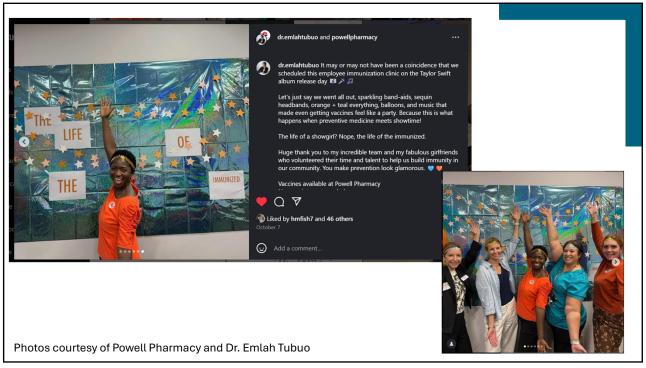
- 84% of patients check online reviews before choosing a healthcare provider
- Your digital presence (website, reviews, social media) is your new front door.
- Encourage patients to leave reviews.
 And respond promptly to negative ones.





rater8. How Patients Choose Their Doctors. rater8 website. https://rater8.com/how-patients-choose-their-doctors-2025-report/. Published 2025. Accessed October 13, 2025.

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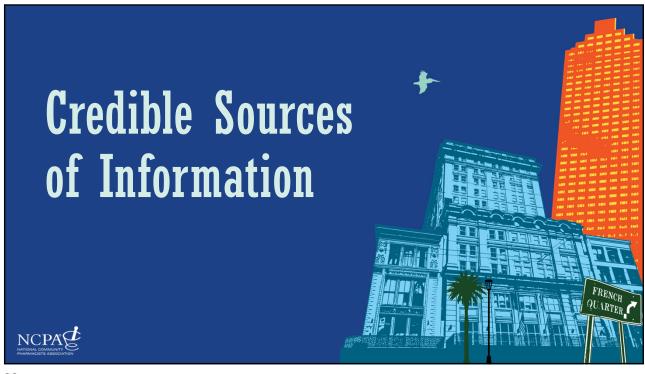
Look Local

- Become an influencer in YOUR community
- Post pictures or short videos of your staff the people your patients already know and love



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Counseling Patients on Health Information

- Empower patients to question online health sources
- Encourage patients to check with their pharmacist or doctor before acting on anything they see online
- Educate patients that information can be correct, but not right for them.



National Library of Medicine. Evaluating Health Information. MedlinePlus. Updated February 26, 2024. Accessed October 12, 2025. https://medlineplus.gov/evaluatinghealthinformation.html

Checklist for Vetting Sources

Websites:

- Who runs it? Look for government (.gov), academic (.edu), or major non-profit sites.
- What's the goal? Is it informing or selling a product?
- ☐ Is it current? Check for recent dates.
- ☐ Where's the proof? Look for cited sources.
- ☐ Who wrote it? See if experts or an editorial board reviewed it.

Social Media & News:

- ☐ Friend or expert? A share doesn't equal accuracy.
- ☐ Too good to be true? Beware of "miracle cures."
- News Stories: Was the study on people? Who paid for it?
- □ Rule of thumb: When in doubt, don't share it.



National Library of Medicine. Evaluating Health Information. MedlinePlus. Updated February 26, 2024. Accessed October 12, 2025. https://medlineplus.gov/evaluatinghealthinformation.html



Action Plan

What is one thing you will...

START doing?

• Example: Repeat back what the patient says to make sure they feel heard.

STOP doing?

• Example: Immediately correcting a patient without asking questions first.

CONTINUE doing?

• Example: Finding opportunities to learn and improve.



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Resources

Trusted Messenger Program – CE on AIMS method

https://www.trustedmessengerprogram.org/training

MisinfoRx Toolkit

https://misinforx.com/



