

## IS01-4      **The roles of community pharmacy in increasing vaccination coverage and uptake**

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Vaccines work. They are also safe and cost-effective. Immunisation is the most effective measure for preventing influenza and other vaccine-preventable illnesses. Nevertheless, in most countries, influenza vaccination coverage is not sufficient to prevent associated deaths and severe outcomes, and vaccines not provided by governments or insurance companies as part of a national plan are often not actively sought out by patients. Several countries still have low vaccination coverage for certain diseases, and below those recommended by WHO. As highlighted in the *2011 FIP-World Health Organisation Guidelines on good pharmacy practice: standards for quality of pharmacy services*, pharmacists have an educator, facilitator and immuniser role in advising on and administering vaccines. Providing direct administration of vaccines, using pharmacists and pharmacies, is a highly effective public health strategy for health systems and healthcare planners, complementing the existing service offerings for immunisation. The presentation will offer an international overview of the different roles that pharmacists play around the world to increase vaccination coverage and uptake, and to build trust in vaccines.