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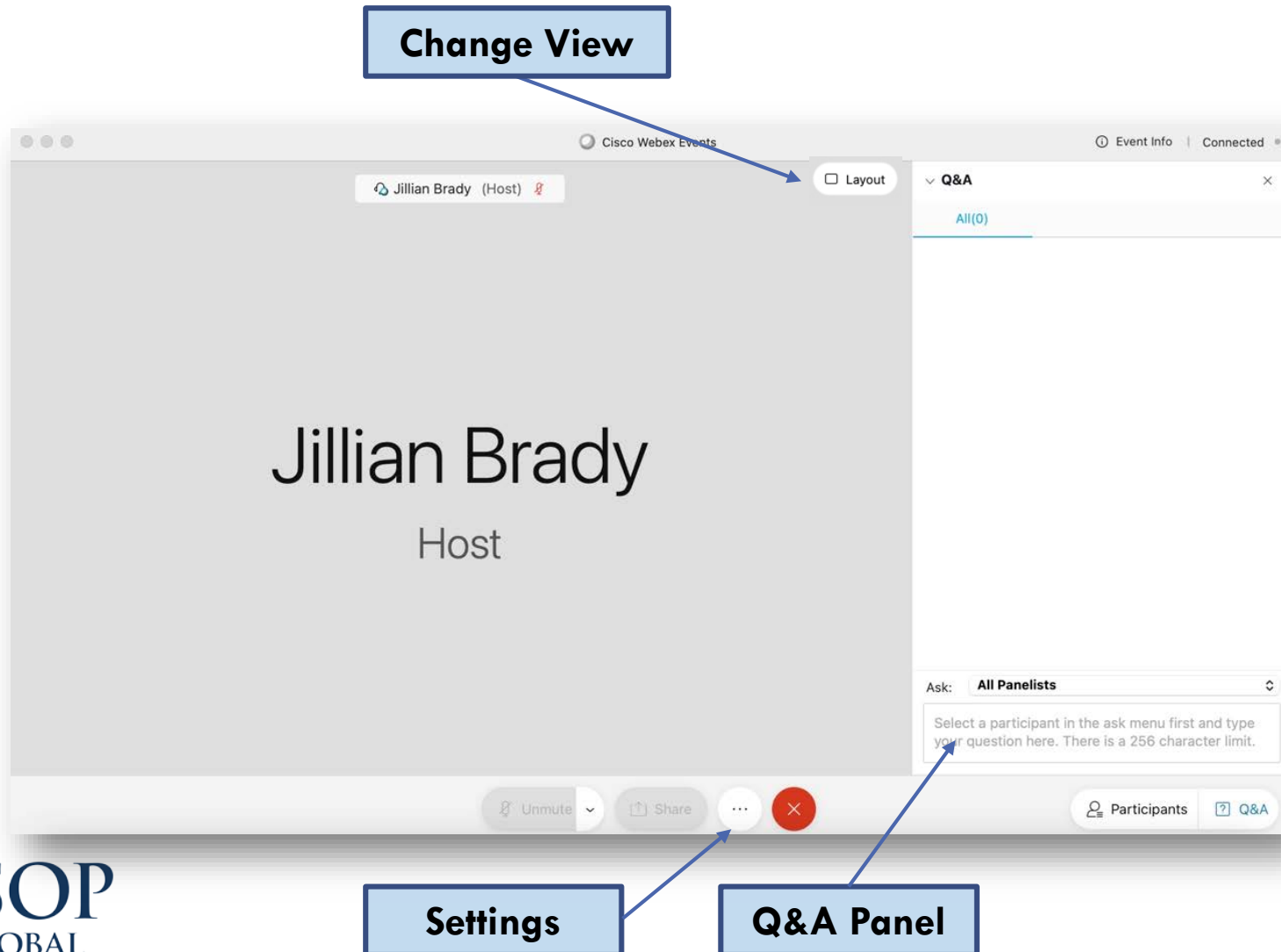
ASOP
GLOBAL
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HIV Prevention and Treatment The Threats of Illegal Online Drug Sellers to Public Health and Patient Safety

ALLIANCE FOR SAFE ONLINE
PHARMACIES GLOBAL FOUNDATION
WEBINAR

JUNE 28, 2021

Webinar Housekeeping

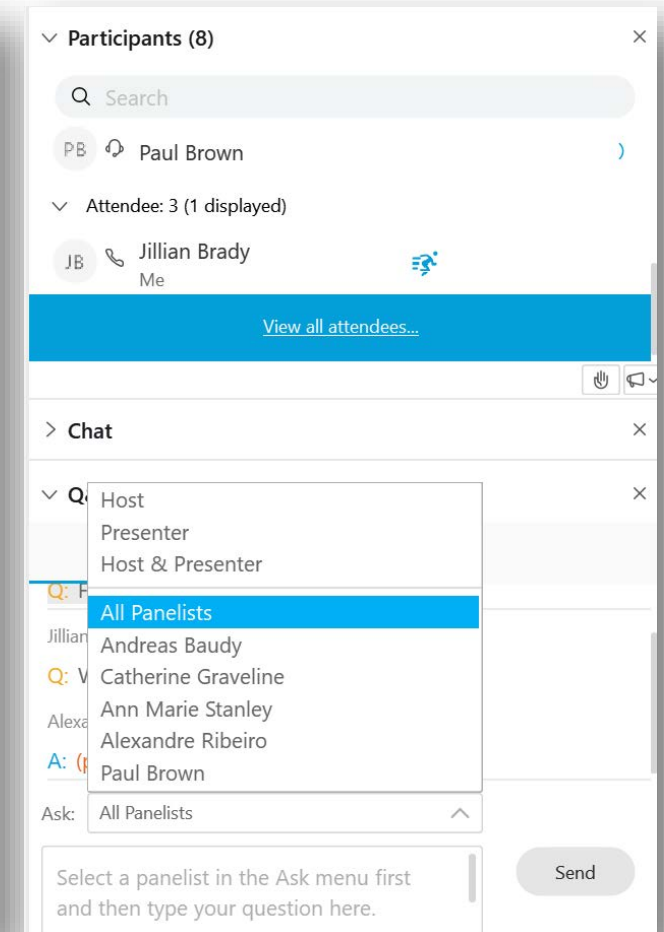
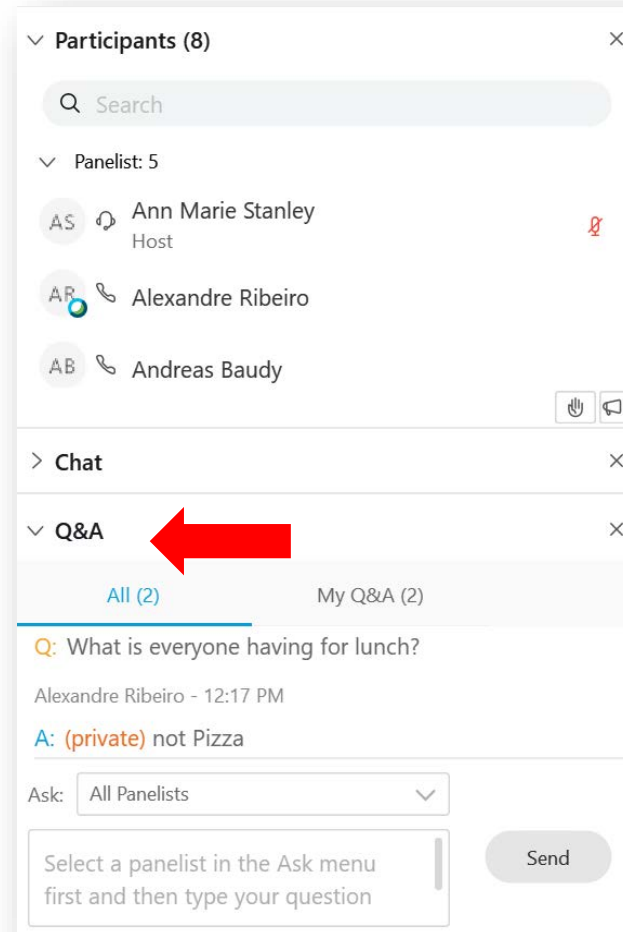


- Participants will enter and remain in listen-only mode throughout the webinar.
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- Slides will be made available after the webinar.

How to Submit a Question

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- Open the Q&A panel (see settings)
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- Type your question in the text box and hit 'Send'.
- Your name and question / comment will appear in the Q&A panel
 - *Only the moderators and presenters will be able to see your question*



Presenters



Libby Baney, JD

ASOP Global Foundation Senior Advisor



John Hertig, PharmD, MS, CPPS, FASHP

ASOP Global Board President

Webinar Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *5 minutes*
Libby Baney, JD, ASOP Global Foundation Senior Advisor
- II. Introduction to ASOP Global and the HIV PrEP Toolkit** *15 minutes*
John Hertig, PharmD, MS, CPPS, FASHP, ASOP Global Board President
- Consumer Use of the Internet for Healthcare Products and Healthcare Provider Awareness
 - Contemporary research update
 - HIV PrEP Anti-Counterfeiting Toolkit
- III. Question and Answer Session - Hearing from NYC Partners** *30 minutes*
*Arash Dabestani, PharmD, MHA, FASHP, FABC
Dean, Long Island University School of Pharmacy*
*Rebecca Kavanagh, PharmD, BCACP, AAHIVP
Director, Co-Curriculum and Developmental Portfolios, Touro College of Pharmacy*
*Michael Liu, PharmD, BCCCP, BCNSP, BCPS
Assistant Dean of Clinical and Professional Affairs, Touro College of Pharmacy*
- IV. Next Steps & Concluding Remarks** *5 minutes*

ASOP Global Foundation

ASOP Global is a nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. with projects in the U.S., Canada, Europe, India, and Asia. ASOP Global is dedicated to protecting consumers around the world, ensuring safe access to medications, and combating illegal online drug sellers and counterfeit medicines.



Educate

Provide consumers, providers, policymakers and other stakeholders information about how to stay safe when shopping for medicines online and offline.

Research

Development of credible data, trends and information on counterfeit medicines and illicit online drug sellers.



Influence


Protect consumers by influencing policymakers, ecommerce and online platforms, law enforcement and NGOs.

Collaborate

Work alongside U.S. and international partners to raise awareness and improve patient safety.



Introduction

- President, Board of Directors for the [Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies](#)
- Butler University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Indianapolis, USA
 - Associate Professor
 - Vice-Chair of Pharmacy Practice
 - Fellowship Director
- Vice-President of the PAHO Region
 - Hospital Pharmacy Section, FIP
- [linkedin.com/in/johnhertig](https://www.linkedin.com/in/johnhertig) 
- Email: jhertig@butler.edu



Internet Medicine Sales:

Why Do Patients Go Online?



CONVENIENCE



COST



ACCESS

www.ASOPFoundation.pharmacy

Patient Protections Often Bypassed Online



Rogue Internet Pharmacy Operations



Why Is This A Problem?

- Common violations by illegal drug sellers include:
 - Selling substandard, falsified, unapproved medicines
 - Selling prescription medications without a prescription
 - Circumventing protections imbedded in our healthcare processes
- Risks of over/under-dosing, drug interactions, adverse events and financial fraud
- Online drug sellers can make between \$1 – 2.5 million in sales each month
 - More lucrative than illegal arms dealers, human trafficking, and other criminal enterprises
- Every day, approximately 20 new illegal online pharmacy websites go live globally
 - *Significant patient safety issue*

Why Is This A Problem?



95% of online drug sellers operate illegally.

The Partnership for Safe Medicines, 2012
LegitScript 2016, NABP 2017

Why Is This A Problem?

Hidden Poisons in Counterfeit Medications

There are a lot of shady ingredients that go into counterfeit medications that consumers can be exposed to by buying directly from unlicensed drug sellers on the internet, or when medical professionals purchase medications from outside the secured supply chain.

Investigators have found these dangerous ingredients in fake medicine.

Heavy metals	Actual poison	Common household items	Drugs you didn't ask for	No drugs at all
				
mercury aluminum lead cadmium arsenic chrome uranium strontium selenium	PCBs benzopyrenes rat poison boric acid antifreeze	road paint wall paint brick dust floor wax sheet rock paint thinner	aminotadalafil homosildenafil xanthoanthrafil pseudovardenafil hongdenafil sibutramine haloperidol	dextrose dextrin lactose starch saline salt



Brick Dust: Used by counterfeiters to provide color and texture to pills, brick dust can contain poisonous heavy metals and other chemicals.

Expanded Harm in a Pandemic

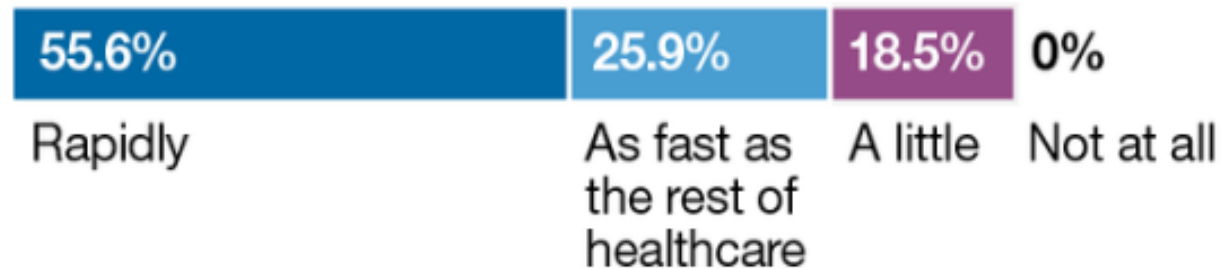
Increase in Criminal Activity

- Within weeks of the WHO declaring the COVID-19 pandemic 100,000 new domain names were registered containing the terms:
 - “covid”
 - “corona”
 - “virus”
- 122 of the names also contain the string “vaccine” and over 400 contain the string “test”
- Criminals take advantage of fear and uncertainty

The Present: Global Trends

- Shifting buying behavior
- Technology-driven disruption
- Pricing and access issues
- Self-care and healthcare consumerism is growing

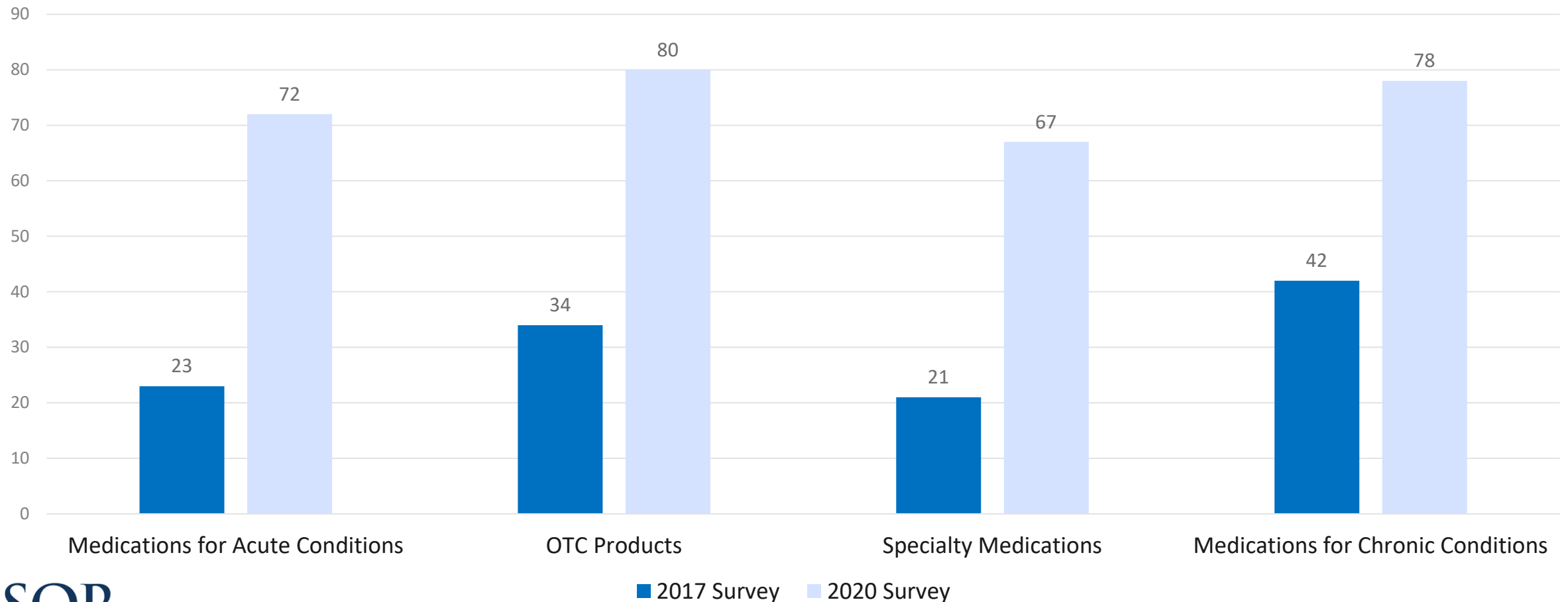
How quickly is the phenomenon of consumerism in healthcare growing overall?



Source: Modern Healthcare research

Consumer Trends: *Growing Use of Online Pharmacies*

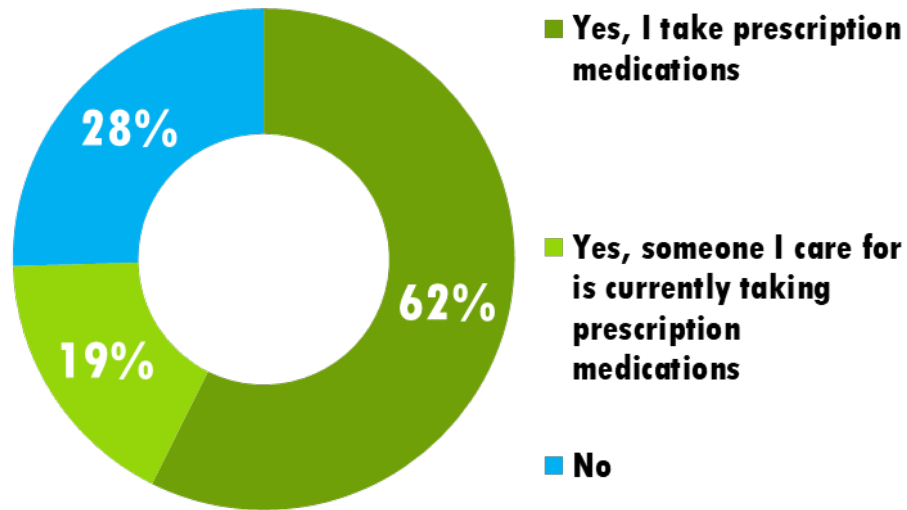
Respondents (%) Who Would Order Medicine Online For:



1 in 4 Have Used an Online Pharmacy Before

7% Increase from 2020

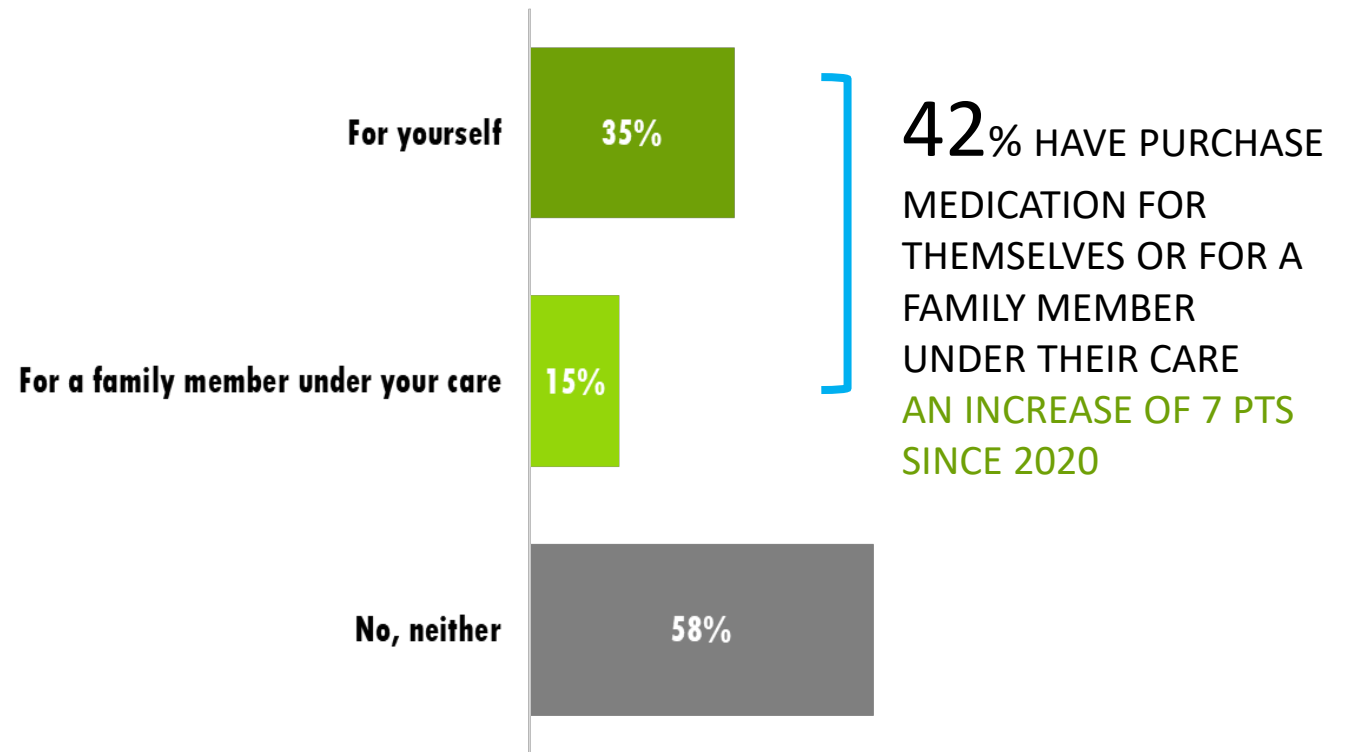
Are you or anyone in your care currently taking any prescription medications?



AMERICANS TAKE AN AVERAGE OF **3.6*** PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS ON A DAILY BASIS

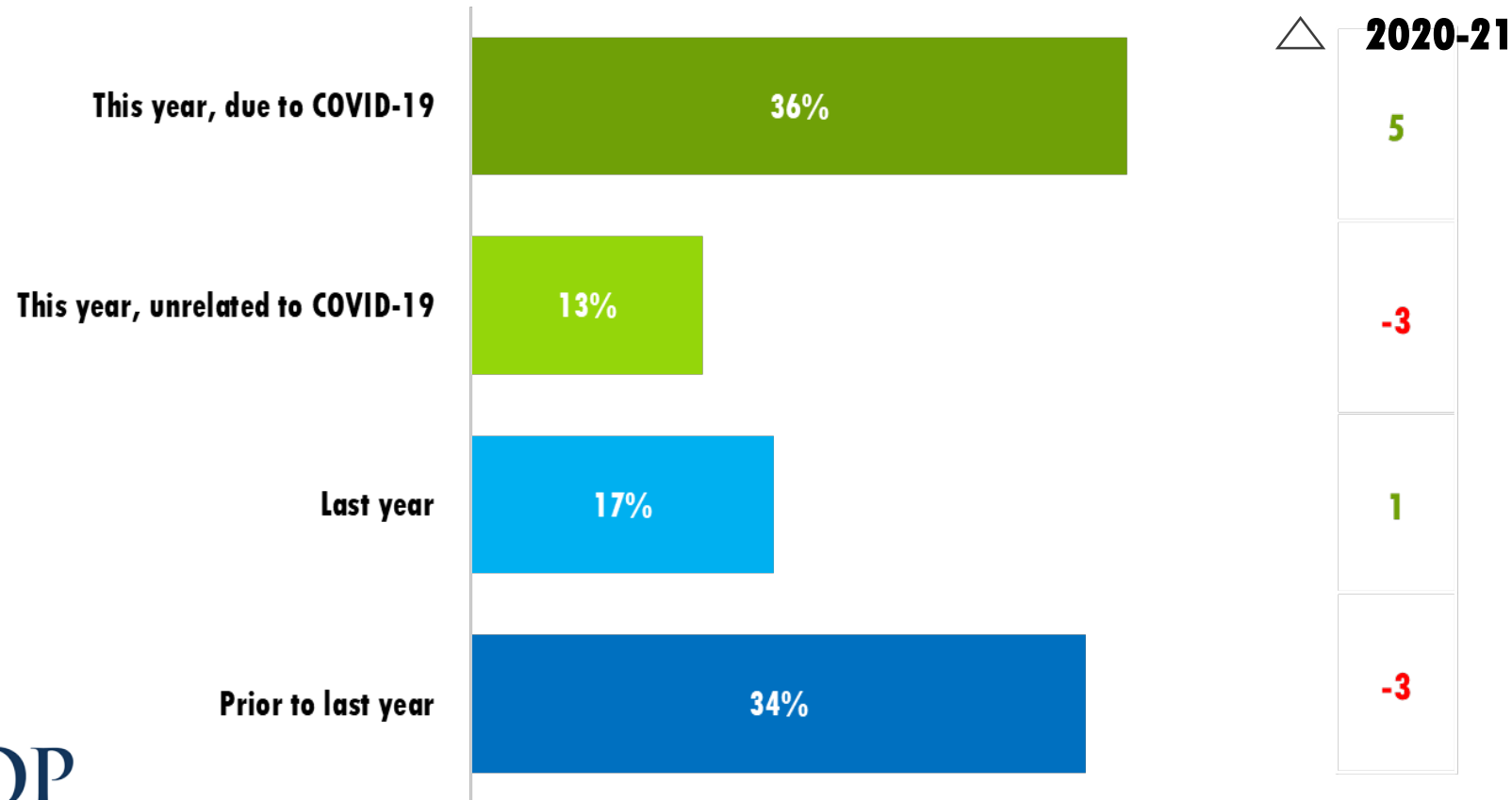
*No Change since 2020

Have you ever purchased prescription medications from an online pharmacy... Select all the apply.



1 In 3 Directly Link Their First Use Of Online Pharmacies To The Pandemic

Which of the following best describes the first time in which you utilized the Internet to purchase prescription-only medications?

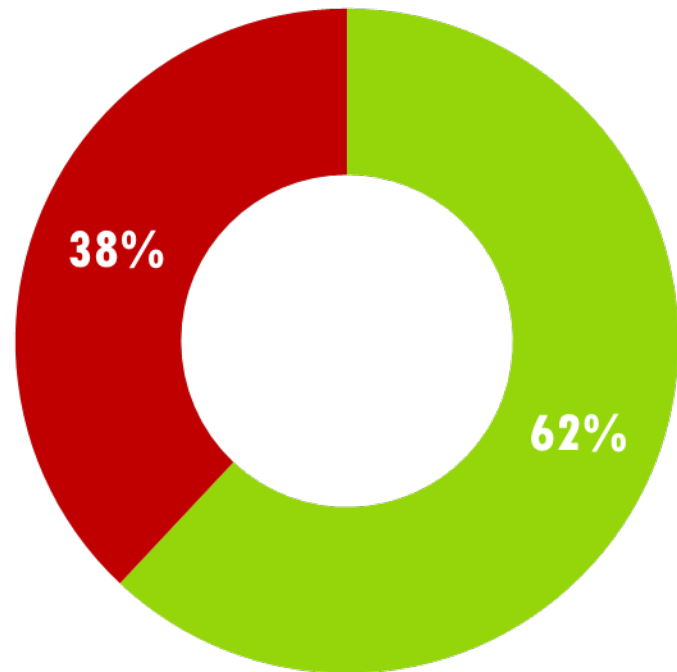


49% SAY THEY TRIED ORDERING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS ONLINE FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR.

Many Will Continue Using Online Pharmacies Post-pandemic

When the COVID-19 pandemic ends, will you continue to purchase prescription medication online routinely, or would you rather visit a pharmacy in person?

[Those who said they purchased prescription medications from an online pharmacy for themselves or family member under their care]



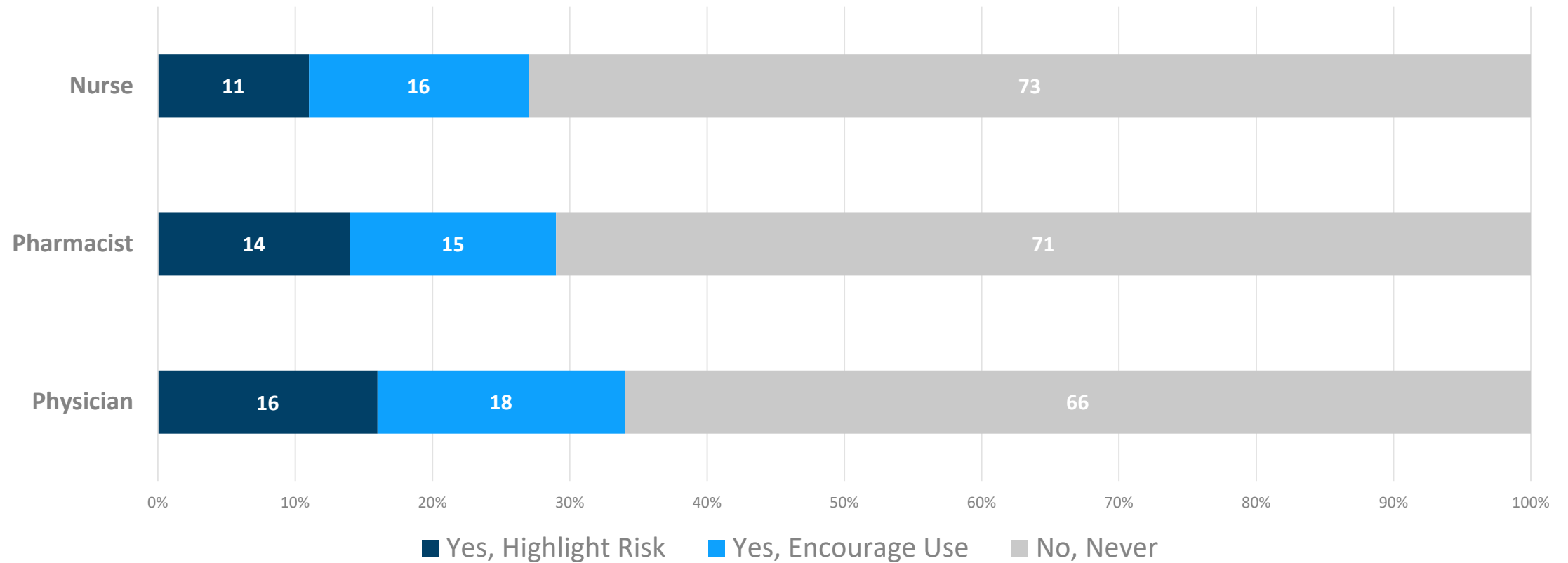
■ Plan to continue purchasing medication online

■ I'd rather visit my pharmacy in person

62% PLAN TO CONTINUE PURCHASING THEIR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS ONLINE POST-PANDEMIC.

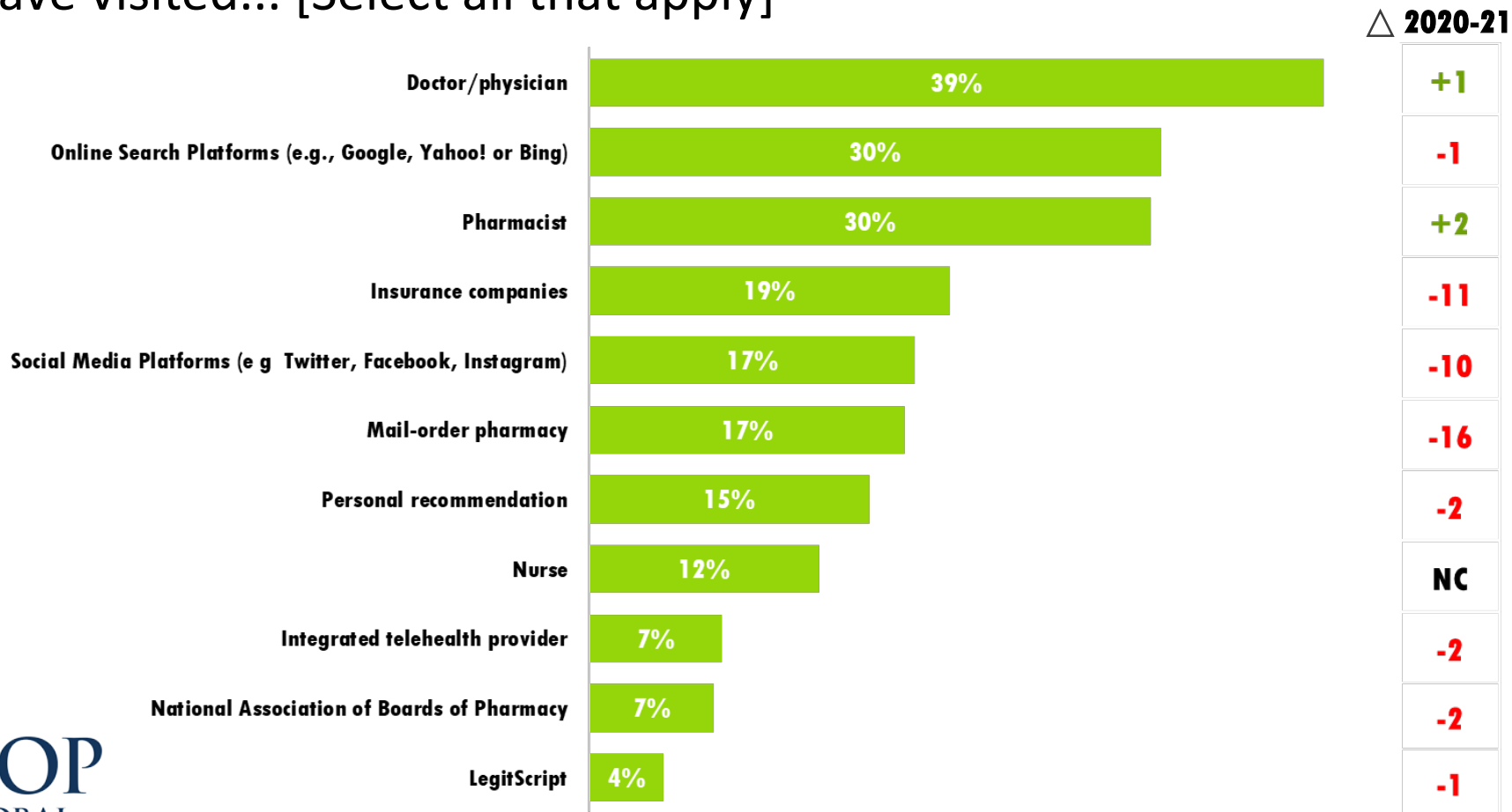
Role of the Healthcare Professional

Are Healthcare Providers Discussing Online Pharmacies?



Most Referrals Coming from Healthcare Professionals

Have ever used the following resources to locate any of the online pharmacy websites you have visited... [Select all that apply]



27% ONLY USE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS (DOCTORS, PHARMACIST, NURSE)

21% ONLY USE ONLINE SOURCES (ONLINE SEARCH, SOCIAL MEDIA)

Pharmacist Survey (United States) - 2019

- Greater than 50% of licensed pharmacist respondents are NOT confident in their knowledge on:

Prevalence of illegal internet pharmacies

Ability to determine the legitimacy of an internet pharmacy

Types of medications sold

Accepted for publication, *Medicine Access @ Point of Care*

NYC Pilot Activity & Local Engagement

- Completion of a comprehensive literature review focused on PrEP and HIV/AIDS medication access, black market/supply chain concerns, and safety issues
- Data collected in July 2020 ASOP Global *Online Pharmacy Consumer Behavior and Perception Survey* around online pharmacy use, with questions directed towards PrEP-specific activities.
- Development of key partnership with clinical and academic partners and downstream engagement with patients, caregivers and key allied organizations
- Series of in-person meetings with HIV/AIDS leaders within the city, including partners from:
 - *NYU-Langone Health*
 - *St. John's University School of Pharmacy*
 - *Tuoro College of Pharmacy*
 - *Long Island University – Brooklyn College of Pharmacy*
 - *Mount Sinai Health System*

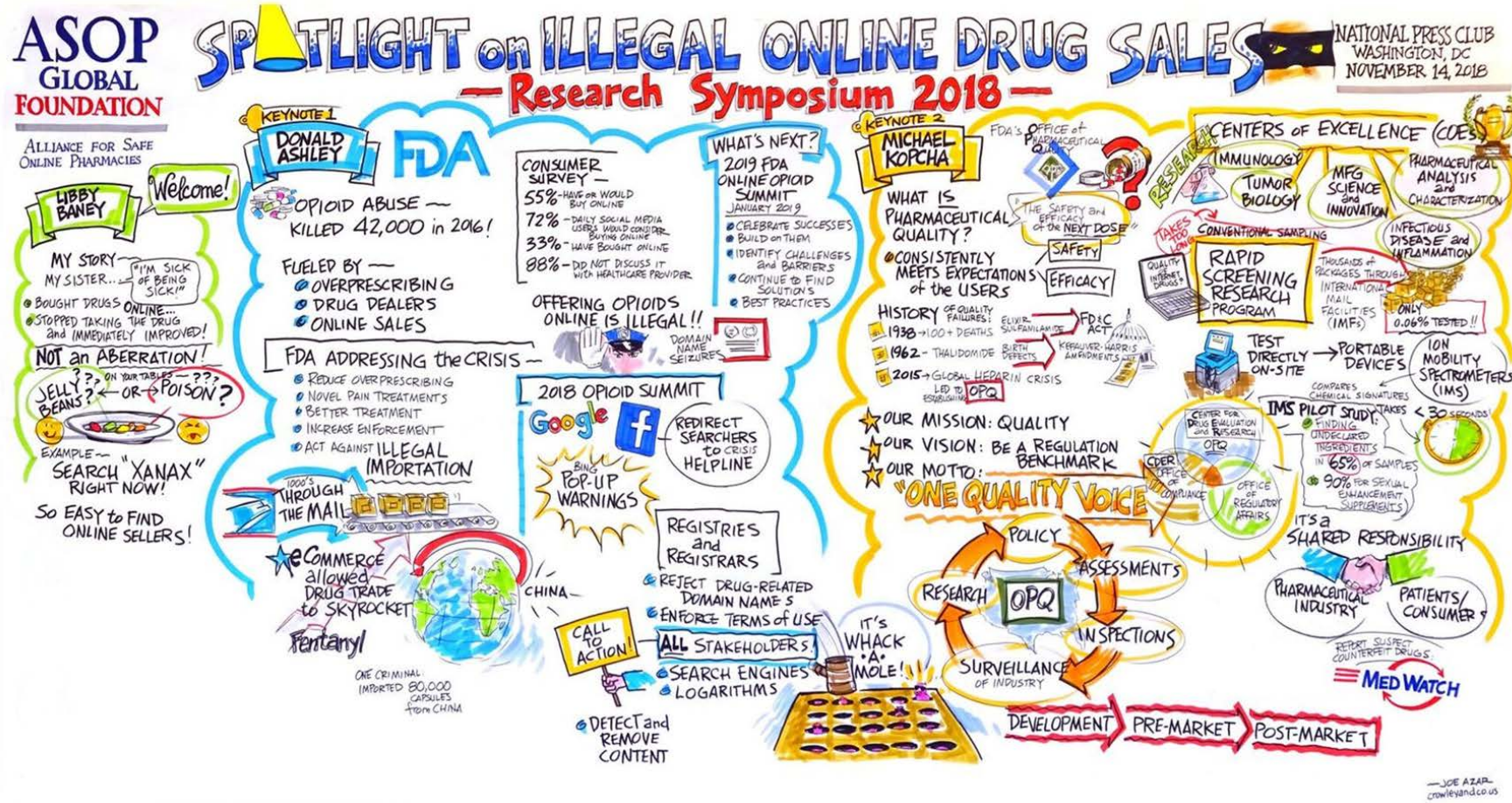
Overview of Pilot Activity & Local Engagement

- Development of a Healthcare Provider Toolkit to discuss the risks associated with poor quality, substandard/falsified or black market HIV PrEP products and messaging points/materials for HCPs to leverage in patient conversations
- Continued dialogue with potential campaign partners with intention of expanding scope and reach of allied organizations.
 - *Coordinated outreach to other clinical and academic allies*
 - *Engagement with patient and caregiver advocacy organizations*
 - *Identified infectious disease leaders in local and state government*

Key Takeaways

- Increase in consumer and patient use of the internet, especially this past year
 - Online pharmacies can be a safe (and potentially cost-effective) alternative to traditional “brick-and-mortar” pharmacies, but must be thoroughly reviewed.
- Pharmacists and other health professionals have limited knowledge regarding illegal online pharmacies
- A global issue involving many drug classes resulting in serious negative impact on public health and patient safety
 - Educated consumers take less risks; more education is needed — to healthcare providers and consumers/patients
 - Use resources to keep patients safe when going online. **“Where do you get your medication?”**

Thank you!



Panel Discussion



Arash Debastani, PharmD, MHA, FASHP, FABC

Dean, Long Island University School of Pharmacy



Rebecca Kavanagh, PharmD, BCACP, AAHIVP

Director, Co-Curriculum and Developmental Portfolios, Touro College of Pharmacy



Michael Liu, PharmD, BCCCP, BCNSP, BCPS

Assistant Dean of Clinical and Professional Affairs, Touro College of Pharmacy

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Thank You for attending today's webinar.

For more information:



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<https://asopfoundation.pharmacy>

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