# An Initial Evaluation of Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Services in the Upper Midwest

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## Objectives
1. Refine a model of MTM services to serve as a tool across the region  
2. Set up a network of pharmacists in the upper Midwest region that will be able to provide MTM services  
3. Assess the capabilities of the pharmacist network to provide MTM services to Medicare beneficiaries  
4. Establish partnerships with a prescription drug plan and a pharmacy chain to support MTM service delivery

## Methods

**Design**
- A panel of experts was used to develop a tool to assist pharmacists in conducting drug regimen reviews as part of MTM services for older adults  
- A pharmacy network was established and used the tool in a mock case of an older adult patient  
- Create presentations about the financial aspects of pharmacy services such as MTM services  
- Telephone, email, and face-to-face contacts with drug plan and chain representatives

**Study endpoints**
- A network of pharmacists involved with MTM services  
- A tool to guide the delivery of MTM services to older adults  
- Working relationships with third party administrator and pharmacy chain

## Results
- A network of 135 pharmacists across 7 states was established and participated in the evaluation of a tool for MTM service delivery to older adults.  
- The Tool to Improve Medications in the Elderly via Review (TIMER) was developed and evaluated in the pharmacy network and pharmacy students, mock cases. Results showed that pharmacists and students identified more drug problems when using the TIMER. This was found for drug problems common for older patients, which are the focus of the tool.  
- TIMER is being evaluated in a pharmacy chain with actual older adult patients. This new study involves working with a pharmacy chain and a third party administrator.  
- Two PowerPoint presentations about the financial aspects of pharmacy services were developed.

## Conclusion
A group of pharmacists has been established in the upper Midwest region to serve as a network for a future demonstration project of MTM services. The TIMER could be helpful in improving drug regimen reviews for older adult patients. More work is needed to expand the delivery of MTM services.

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