

# MedFinder Improving Access to Medications

## What is MedFinder?

The MedFinder website helps providers and patients find nearby pharmacies with available influenza antiviral drugs ([www.medfinder.org](http://www.medfinder.org)). MedFinder relies on pharmacy partnerships to report accurate and up-to-date information about available medications. The HealthMap Computational Epidemiology Lab<sup>1</sup> maintains MedFinder in partnership with CDC.

## Overview and Benefits

MedFinder's goal is to make it simple for users to find a nearby location to fill their prescription for influenza medications. Patients prescribed antiviral drugs and healthcare providers sending e-prescriptions can use MedFinder to find locations nearby that have these medications available. Users specify their location and medications, and MedFinder displays mapped results of stores and their ability to fill a prescription based on the drug supply they have:

- ● ● High supply of medication (+48 hours of supply)
- ● ○ Moderate supply of medication (24–48 hours of supply)
- ○ ○ Low supply of medication (less than 24 hours of supply)

Key benefits help save time and resources during a seasonal influenza outbreak or pandemic:

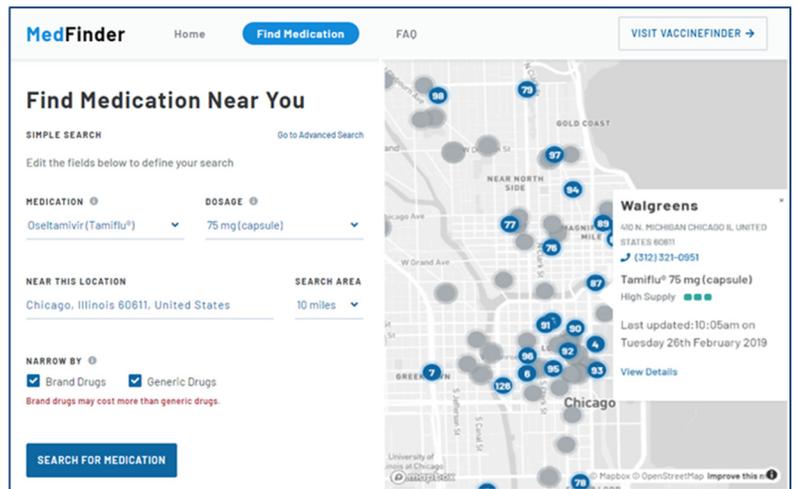
- Easy to use website directs patients to stores with medications on hand and reduces misdirected prescriptions
- Supports timely access to critical medications by improving dispensing time and enabling prompt treatment
- Flexible reporting options allow pharmacies to update supply (manual and automated methods available)

## What Pharmacies Need to Know

During an influenza outbreak, timely information on where to go to access influenza antiviral drugs will be critical for: **providers** to know where to send prescriptions; **patients** to know where to fill their prescription; and **public health** decision makers to know when additional antiviral drug supplies from stockpiles may be needed. MedFinder includes locations in all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico. All information on MedFinder is updated by participating pharmacies.

Pharmacies enroll and report supply estimates for the medications they carry at each participating location. Reporting options include: (1) manually via a secure online portal (web form or data file upload); or (2) an automated secure data transfer to report medication availability. Pharmacies are encouraged to update medication supply frequently to ensure accurate information is available for the public.

*To participate in MedFinder, register your location at <https://locating.health/register>.  
If you are a vaccination provider, help people find your location for the vaccines they need. Learn more at <https://vaccinefinder.org>.*



*MedFinder connects patients and providers with available influenza antiviral drugs*

<sup>1</sup> HealthMap, based at Boston Children's Hospital, is a global leader in applying online tools to public health threats (<https://healthmap.org>).

