Committee: Long Island Society of Health-system Pharmacists

**Topic: Point-of-Care Testing and Treatment by Pharmacists**Sponsored: Edwin Gruda, PharmD, BCPS, Catherine Millares-Sipin, PharmD, MBA

WHEREAS, pharmacists are considered to be the most accessible members of the healthcare team and have the training and skills to increase patient access through high quality care

WHEREAS, the uninsured are about 4 times more likely to not seek medical care for a health problem due to cost compared to insured (41% vs. 11%)[[1]](#endnote-1)

WHEREAS, the earlier identification of acute infection leads to earlier diagnosis and earlier access to treatment, thereby improving patient outcomes

WHEREAS, pharmacists, as recognized members of the health care team, can expand patient access to early testing and initial treatment for common illnesses; and

WHEREAS, several states allow Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988-waived point-of care testing and initiation of protocol-based treatment by pharmacists (i.e., “test and treat”); and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports the development and implementation of point-of-care testing and treatment by pharmacists following the successful completion of a “test and treat” training program. Under a state written protocol, pharmacists may test and treat for the following: Influenza, streptococcus, SARS-CoV-2, lice, skin conditions like ringworm and athlete’s foot, and uncomplicated, minor infections

1. Health Care Access among Adults in New York City a Report from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene the Importance of Having Insurance and a Regular Care Provider Dear Fellow New Yorkers: Introduction 2. 2007. ‌ [↑](#endnote-ref-1)