## Breaking Down barriers To health Care access.

Women are missing out on essential care and falling through the gaps ...

13% of Australians have waited up to 3 weeks to see a GP.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

Source: National Voter Research, commissioned by PGA November 2024. 10-minute online

13% of women miss the pill because they can't access a GP.

Source: Abukres SH, Hoti K, Hughes JD. Patient attitudes towards a new role for pharmacists: continued dispensing. Patient Prefer Adherence. 2014.

2 in 5 Australian women will experience an unintended pregnancy.

1 in 3 of these will result in an abortio

Source: Mazza D, Assifi AR, Hussainy SY, et alExpanding community pharmacists' scope of practice in relation to contraceptive counselling and referral: a protocol for a pragmatic, stepped-wedge, cluster randomised trial (ALLIANCE)BMJ Open 2023;13:e073154. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2023-073154

**Delayed care** means worse outcomes for women

When care is hard to reach, women carry the burdern.

7 56% of the cost of unintended pregnancy is carried by women.

unintended

pregnancy in Australia per year

Women are calling for faster, local care. Community pharmacy can deliver!

13% of Australians have waited up to 3 weeks for GP appointments.

November 2024. 10-minute online survey. Sample size 3453.

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Source: National Voter Research, commissioned by PGA

people went to an ED due to GP wait times or availability

Frontline health services are struggling. When care is hard to access, women suffer the consequences

Source: Use of emergency departments for lower urgency care 2020-21 and 2021-22, AIHW, last updated May 2024.

Health equity

starts with

**Community pharmacy** pilot programs show how rapid treatment prevents escalation and reduces health system load.

97%

Patient satisfaction

Safety concerns

93% patients accessed care within 24hrs

zero

immediate impact 93% of women received

Immediate care,

care within 24 hours during pharmacy pilots, no GP backlog, no delay. Reducing the load on frontline health services.

**78%** patients were

access

comfortable receiving birth control initiation

70%

comfortable receiving treatment of non-complex UTI

PGA November 2024. 10-minute online survey. Sample size 3453.

Source: National Voter Research, commissioned by

332 rural towns, have community pharmacy are their only frontline healthcare.

Source: Victorian Department of Health.

Pilot Summary Report, May 2025.

Victorian Community Pharmacist Statewide

causing potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH) in Australia in 2023-24.

Source: Based on AIHW data, last updated May 2025. UNSW/UTS BEACH data analysis estimating 1.5% of GP consultations are for UTIs.

Source: Urinary Tract Infections Factsheet, Kidney Health Australia, Last reviewed Dec 2018.

1 in 2 women will have a UTI in their lifetime.

**90K+** hospitalisations occur yearly due to UTIs.

**ZX** higher in some remote areas.

Source: Based on AIHW data (2023–24 GP attendances) and UNSW/UTS BEACH data analysis estimating 1.5% of GP consultations are for UTIs.

**Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander** people are more than twice as likely to

> Quality in Health Care, Fourth Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation – Kidney Infections and Urinary Tract Infections, 2021

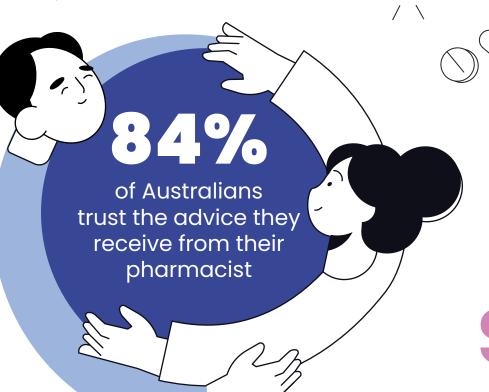
be hospitalised for UTIs. Source: Australian Commission on Safety and

On average, every person

visits a community pharmacy 18 times each year,

in metropolitan, rural and remote locations.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, 2025.



Source: Roy Morgan. Image of Professions Survey 2017: Pharmacists rated 'very high' or 'high' by 84% of

Australians for ethics and honesty. May 2017.

10,270 UTI

Cases managed successfully in QLD pharmacies.

86%

Symptom resolution Pharmacists referred appropriately when needed

Queensland Health / QUT, 2023



**UTIs account for an** estimated 2,850,000 MBS items per year!

> Source: Based on Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) & University of Sydney, Bettering the Evaluation and Care of Health (BEACH) program, 2023-24.

pharmacies across Australia; care is

5977

always close, even after hours!

97%

of Australians live within 2.5 km of a pharmacy.

443.6 million **Individual patients** 

visit community pharmacies annually and 2,644 pharmacies open after-hours, including weekends. This is a called ACCESS!

Empowering community pharmacy Safe. Fast. supports women!

> It also reduces pressure on GPs, and front-line healthcare providers, delivering better outcomes for all Australians.

And Local. Community pharmacies are ready!

Let's break down the barriers to

access today!