

# NC PHARMACISTS

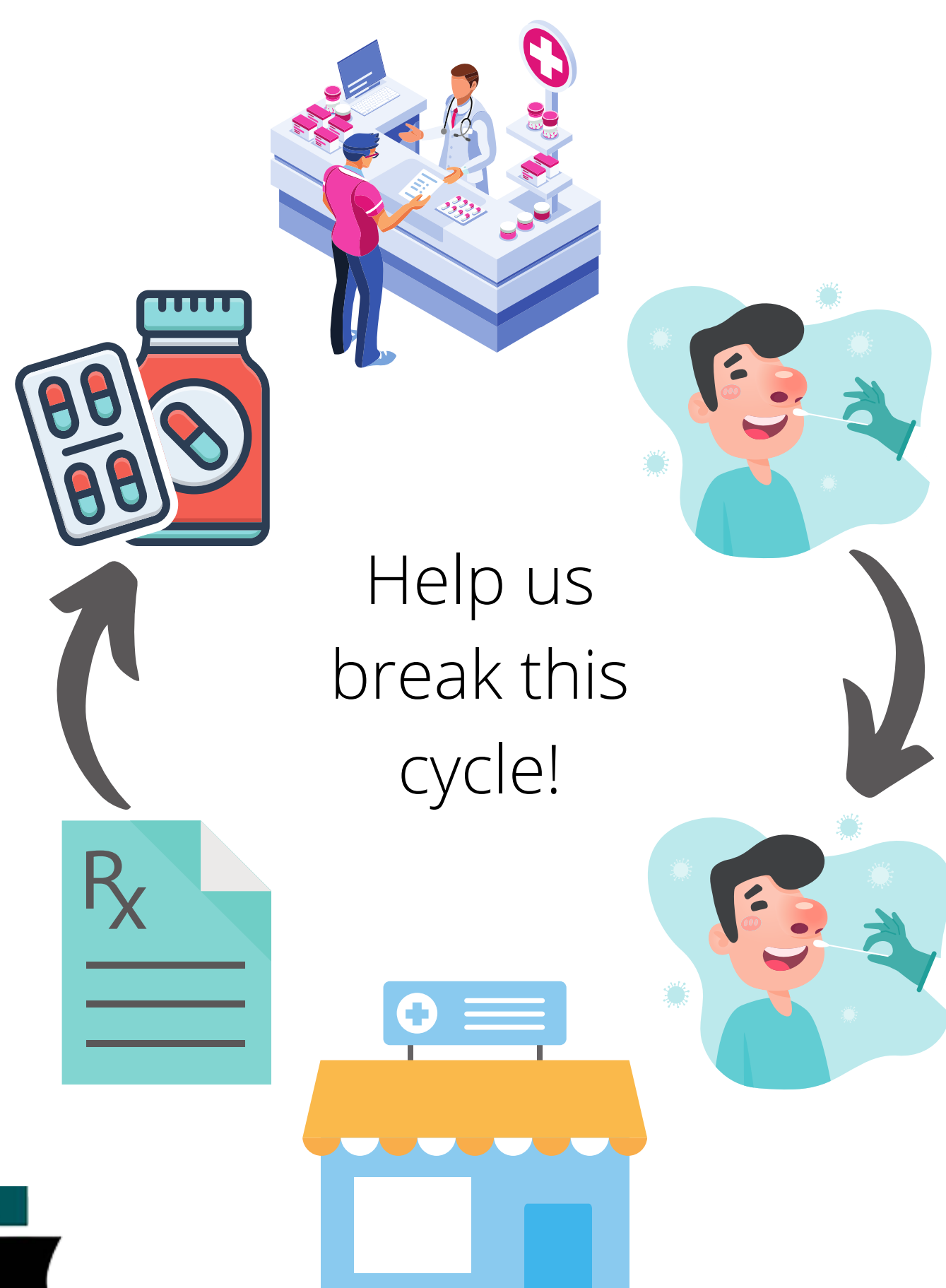
## INCREASING ACCESS TO MEDICATIONS



### TEST & TREAT

In accordance with statewide protocols, a pharmacist holding an active and unencumbered license to practice pharmacy in the state, may initiate treatment based upon point-of-care testing or screening for minor, non-chronic health conditions, including flu and strep.

Allowing pharmacists to not only test for the flu, but also prescribe treatment, prevents an additional trip to a provider, urgent care or emergency department, repeat testing and delays in treatment.



### THE STATISTICS

There were 186 influenza-related deaths in North Carolina during the 2019-2020 season

The flu results in a productivity loss of more than \$1 billion per year - in North Carolina alone

Prompt treatment with influenza antivirals can shorten the time of illness by 1-2 days resulting in fewer days missed from work

Currently 19 states (and counting) allow pharmacists to test for the flu with a simple, CLIA-waived test and prescribe an antiviral medication as treatment

Research shows that pharmacist test and treat services resulted in no reported patient harm, better antibiotic stewardship, and patient satisfaction scores over 90%