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New COVID-19 Operational Waiver: Authorization for Pharmacy Technician Trainees to Stock Automated Pharmacy Systems and Automated Drug Storage Systems

On June 16, 2023, the Board issued a new COVID-19 operational waiver that authorizes pharmacy technician trainees to stock automated pharmacy systems and automated drug storage systems under certain conditions. The new waiver can be accessed [here](#).

REMINDER:

- Certified pharmacy technicians are permitted to stock automated drug storage systems in accordance to rule [4729:3-3-04](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code.
- Registered pharmacy technicians are permitted to stock automated drug storage systems in accordance to rule [4729:3-3-03](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

For more information about the Board's COVID-19 waivers, please visit:
www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID

CLARIFICATION: New Federal Training Requirement for Pharmacists with Mid-Level DEA Registrations

NOTE: *This training requirement only applies to pharmacists with a mid-level DEA registration obtained under a consult agreement. If you do not have a controlled substance registration with the DEA to prescribe controlled substances, you are not required to complete this training.*

On December 29, 2022, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 enacted a new one-time, eight-hour training requirement for all Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-registered practitioners on the treatment and management of patients with opioid or other substance use disorders.

For more information on this requirement visit:
https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubs/docs/MATE_Training_Letter_Final.pdf

As a reminder, pharmacists can obtain a mid-level DEA registration under a consult agreement. For more information, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/consult.

REMINDER: Immunizations by Pharmacists and Pharmacy Interns

[Section 4729.41 of the Ohio Revised Code](#) and rules [4729:1-3-02](#) & [4729:2-3-03](#) of the Administrative Code authorize a pharmacist or pharmacy intern working under the direct supervision of a pharmacist to administer, subject to a physician protocol, the following immunizations:

- Any immunization for any disease to individuals 13 years old or older without a prescription.
- Any immunization for any disease to individuals ages 7-12 if there is a prescription for the immunization (except as provided below for COVID-19 vaccines and flu shots).
- FDA authorized COVID-19 vaccines and flu shots to individuals starting at seven years

old without a prescription.

Pharmacists and interns should familiarize themselves with these requirements by reviewing the Board's immunization guidance document: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/immunize.

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