



COVID-19 Response Efforts - March 14, 2020

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy is committed to protecting the health and safety of Ohioans during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Board posted a document on its website that provides COVID-19 guidance and response efforts, including the issuance of waivers to assist licensees in addressing operational needs. This document will be updated regularly and can be accessed by visiting: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID. **Please be advised that new waivers were issued today (see next section).**

As a reminder, the Ohio Department of Health has issued the following applicable COVID-19 checklists:

- [Pharmacies](#)
- [Employers](#)
- [Healthcare Providers](#)

For more information on the state's efforts to address coronavirus, visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov.

COVID-19 Waivers Issued

Formal notices of the waivers will be posted to the Board's website by noon tomorrow.

For questions regarding these waivers, please e-mail the Board office by visiting: <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/contact.aspx>.

Authorizing Temporary Compounding of Certain Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products

Approved on 3/14/2020

In order to reduce opportunities for the transmission of COVID-19 and mitigate possible shortages, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has adopted the following guidance to permit the compounding and sale of certain alcohol-based hand sanitizer products by Ohio-licensed pharmacies and outsourcing facilities (referred to collectively in this guidance as compounders).

This guidance is being issued in accordance with a Board resolution adopted on March 2, 2020 and section 4729.25 of the Revised Code. This document serves as the formal notice required pursuant to section 4729.25 of the Revised Code.

Compounders must adhere to the requirements and recommendations set forth in the FDA's Policy for [Temporary Compounding of Certain Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products During the Public Health Emergency](#).

This guidance is in effect until rescinded by the Board or the United States Food and Drug Administration.

Reuse of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Compounding Activities

Approved on 3/14/2020

In order to mitigate reported shortages, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has adopted the following guidance to permit licensees conducting sterile compounding to reuse certain personal protective equipment (PPE).

This guidance is being issued in accordance with a Board resolution adopted on March 2, 2020 and section 4729.25 of the Revised Code. This document serves as the formal notice required pursuant

to section 4729.25 of the Revised Code.

In order to reuse sterile compounding garb, a licensed terminal distributor of dangerous drugs must comply with all the following:

- Develop and implement policies and procedures for the appropriate reuse of PPE that will not compromise the microbial state of control in the compounding rooms.
- Train compounding staff on the policies and procedures developed for reusing PPE.
- For the reuse of masks:
 - The identification of personnel is clearly stated on the mask (i.e. initialed).
 - Masks are removed on the dirty side of the ante-room or outside of the perimeter line of the segregated control area (SCA) without touching the inside of the mask.
 - Each mask for reuse is placed in its own small paper bag with the personnel's initials on the outside of the bag. A new bag must be used each time the mask is removed for reuse.
 - All masks in bags must be placed in a container located where masks would normally be donned.
 - Compounding personnel must inspect the mask each time it is reused to ensure the mask provides adequate control (i.e. condition of the mask, whether it is visibly soiled, handling technique, etc.) in accordance with the facility's policies and procedures.
- For the reuse of gowns:
 - Gowns may only be reused over the course of a single day.
 - Compounding personnel must inspect the gown each time it is reused to ensure the gown provides adequate control (i.e. condition of the gown, whether it is visibly soiled, handling technique, etc.) in accordance with the facility's policies and procedures.

IMPORTANT: The following sterile compounding garb cannot be reused:

- Shoe covers and sterile gloves; and
 - Gowns and masks used to compound hazardous drugs (as listed in the [NIOSH List of Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings](#)).
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