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## E-News Update October 2020

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### Special Notice from the Ohio Department of Health - COVID-19 Vaccine Providers

Dear Healthcare Provider,

If you want to administer the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available, it is critically important that you enroll as soon as possible due to accelerated federal timelines. **If you have ultra-cold storage capabilities (below -70 degrees Celsius) and are able to administer COVID-19 vaccines to 500 or more individuals, we ask that you enroll no later than Friday, November 6!** Please note that not every provider needs to have ultra-cold storage capabilities to be a COVID-19 vaccine provider.

While we do not know exactly when vaccine will be available, we must review and process applications and conduct provider training as quickly as possible to be prepared to mobilize immediately with little notice. It also is essential that we be able to identify and address any vaccine provider gaps across the state.

To submit an application to become a COVID-19 vaccination provider, please sign up online by going to the State of Ohio's "OH|ID" webpage at <https://ohid.ohio.gov> and follow the steps outlined in the attached "job aid." Be sure to have on hand all of the information outlined in the [enrollment "checklist."](#)

Please note that if you do not already have an OH|ID account, this will be a two-step sign-up process. The first step will be to create an account which must be reviewed and approved, usually within 24 hours. After approval, you will receive an email notification and can go to the second step by logging into your new OH|ID account to complete your COVID-19 vaccination provider enrollment application. Instructions for accessing the OH|ID system can be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/ODHvaccine](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/ODHvaccine).

If you have any questions, please contact the ODH COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Enrollment Team at [covidvaccine@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:covidvaccine@odh.ohio.gov).

Working together, we can help end the COVID-19 pandemic by vaccinating Ohioans who choose to receive the vaccine when it becomes available.

Regards,

Lance D. Himes  
Interim Director  
Ohio Department of Health

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### Guidance on Vaccine Administration and COVID-19 Testing

Recent guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the PREP Act authorizes pharmacy personnel to conduct vaccine administration and COVID-19 testing.

To assist licensees in complying with this process, the Board has released or updated the following guidance documents:

- [Administration of Childhood Vaccines during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (Updated)
- [Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (Updated)
- [Pharmacy Technician Administration of Vaccines during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (New)
- [Pharmacist, Pharmacy Intern, and Pharmacy Technician Testing Authority During COVID-19](#) (Updated)

The Board of Pharmacy has been contacted by several hospitals around the state regarding the prescribing of controlled substances by Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) following the passage of [Ohio HB 197](#) (133rd General Assembly). To assist licensees, the Board recently released guidance on the use of institutional DEA registrations.

This guidance can be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/CRNAdea](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/CRNAdea)

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### **Board Updates Guidance on TDDD Licensure for Prescriber Practices**

On October 30, 2020, the Board issued updated guidance regarding terminal distributor of dangerous drug (TDDD) licensure for prescriber practices.

The updated guidance can be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/prescriberTDDD](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/prescriberTDDD).

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### **Board Releases FY 2020 Annual Report**

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy released its FY 2020 Annual Report. The report can be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/FY20](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/FY20).

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### **PTCB - Technician Product Verification Assessment-Based Certificate Program**

Recently, the Board has received inquiries regarding PTCB's Technician Product Verification Assessment-Based Certificate Program. Please be advised that Ohio law does not currently allow technicians to perform product verification procedures (aka tech-check-tech). Therefore, the Board of Pharmacy does not accept the Technician Product Verification (TPV) Certificate or have any approved programs for the TPV certification.

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### **Recommendations on Providing Clear Instructions to Patients Who Self-Collect an Anterior Nares (Nasal) Sample in a Health Care Setting for SARS-CoV-2 Testing - Letter to Health Care Providers**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends that health care providers give clear, step-by-step instructions to patients who, in a health care setting, are self-collecting anterior nares (nasal) samples for SARS-CoV-2 testing. Without proper instructions, patients may not collect an adequate sample for testing, which may decrease the sensitivity of the test. To full letter can be accessed [here](#).

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### **State Medical Board of Ohio Issues Warning on Physician Extortion Scam**

Licensees should be on alert for a scam that has resurfaced targeting Ohio physicians. Scammers have been calling and faxing prescribers stating they have been investigated for drug trafficking by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and their license has been suspended effective immediately. For more information, click [here](#).

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