



COVID-19 Response Efforts - December 17, 2021

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. **Waivers can be found starting on page 5 of this document:**

www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID.

For more information on the state's efforts to address coronavirus, visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

Notice Regarding COVID-19 Vaccination Cards

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy is investigating several instances of pharmacy personnel engaged in fraudulent activity regarding COVID-19 vaccination cards. Such activity includes theft of vaccination cards for the purposes of sale, forgery, and providing false vaccination administration information.

Please be advised that such activities are considered a violation of both state and federal law. As such, pharmacy personnel engaged in such activities may be subject to administrative discipline by the Board.

CDC Endorses ACIP's Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

On Thursday, CDC endorsed updated recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for the prevention of COVID-19, expressing a clinical preference for individuals to receive an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine over Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine. ACIP's unanimous recommendation followed a robust discussion of the latest evidence on vaccine effectiveness, vaccine safety and rare adverse events, and consideration of the U.S. vaccine supply. The U.S. supply of mRNA vaccines is abundant – with nearly 100 million doses in the field for immediate use.

This updated CDC recommendation follows similar recommendations from other countries, including Canada and the United Kingdom. Given the current state of the pandemic both here and around the world, the ACIP reaffirmed that receiving any vaccine is better than being unvaccinated. Individuals who are unable or unwilling to receive an mRNA vaccine will continue to have access to Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine.

REMINDER: COVID-19 Waiver - Extension of Emergency Refills

To promote patient access to needed medications during the COVID-19 outbreak, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has adopted a resolution extending the authority of a pharmacist to issue refills pursuant to section 4729.281 of the Revised Code.

For more information visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDrefill

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