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## COVID-19 Response Efforts - December 15, 2020

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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](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID).

For more information on the state's efforts to address coronavirus, visit [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov) or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

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### **SURVEY: Licensed Staff Resources for Potential Medical Surge from COVID-19**

***Licensees that are interested in completing the survey should do so by today (December 15th)***

Below is a link to a survey about staffing healthcare entities for the COVID-19 response. The goal of this survey is to identify unaffiliated personnel (people not already being counted by hospitals) who can offer support in a healthcare surge. Support may be needed for both clinical and behavioral health care. This is an unprecedented incident, and we need to identify all available healthcare providers to mount an effective response.

Available and interested licensees will be contacted by a representative from the State of Ohio or by interested healthcare entities to discuss next steps. If you filled out the survey this past spring and remain interested, you must complete the survey again. **[PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO COMPLETE THIS SURVEY BY CLICKING ON THIS LINK](#)**

Licensees with questions regarding the survey can contact: [MRC@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:MRC@odh.ohio.gov)

As a reminder, the Board has extended its policy that permits a pharmacist who has had an Ohio license lapse or expire, to apply for a temporary, no-cost license reinstatement under certain conditions.

This policy may be accessed by visiting: <https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/PharmTEMP>

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### **Changes to Ohio's Pharmacist Consult Agreement Law Effective 12/16/2020**

Effective 12/16/2020, changes to [section 4729.39](#) of the Ohio Revised Code ([HB 203](#) – 133rd General Assembly) expand the type of providers with whom a pharmacist may enter into a consult agreement. While continuing to authorize consult agreements between pharmacists and physicians, the law change permits one or more pharmacists to enter into a consult agreement with one or more of the following:

1. Physician assistants, if entering into a consult agreement is authorized by one or more supervising physicians; and
2. Clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-midwives, or certified nurse practitioners, if entering into a consult agreement is authorized by one or more collaborating physicians.

Additionally, the law change no longer limits pharmacists to ordering blood and urine tests under a consult agreement.

To assist licensees in implementing this law change, the Board recently updated its consult agreement guidance document: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/consult](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/consult)

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