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## COVID-19 Response Efforts - March 19, 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. This document will be updated regularly and can be accessed by visiting: [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).

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### Practicing Pharmacy in a Safe and Effective Manner - Mandatory Requirements **UPDATED 3/19/2020**

On March 18, 2020, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy issued **mandatory requirements** for pharmacies to implement safeguards to ensure pharmacy professionals practice in a safe and effective manner. These requirements can be accessed by visiting: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDsafe](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDsafe)

On March 19, 2020, the Board issued an update to these requirements clarifying provisions on immunization administration as follows:

- Pharmacists and pharmacy interns shall no longer be permitted to administer immunizations or other injections without standard protective measures, which includes gloves and proper hand hygiene (i.e. routinely washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds). Standard protective measures **do not** include the use of masks or gowns.
- Pharmacists and pharmacy interns shall not administer any immunizations or other injections to patients displaying or reporting symptoms of respiratory illness, including any of the following:
  - Fever (**NOTE:** This does not require mandatory temperature checks);
  - Cough; or
  - Shortness of breath.

These updated requirements can be accessed by visiting: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDsafe](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDsafe).

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### State Medical Board of Ohio COVID-19 Resources

The State Medical Board issued new guidance on using telemedicine in place of in-person visits. This guidance can be accessed [here](#).

The Medical Board also launched a webpage to provide prescriber resources during the COVID-19 outbreak. The site can be accessed by visiting: <https://med.ohio.gov/COVID-19>.

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### Important COVID-19 Reminders

The Board has issued additional guidance based upon questions received from licensees. This additional guidance is listed under the *Important COVID-19 Reminders* section of the Board's [response efforts document](#).

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