



E-News Update September 2020

Board Encourages All Licensees to Review DEA and NABP Guidance on Pharmacy Robberies and Burglaries

The Board would like to remind all pharmacists and pharmacy staff that pharmacy robberies and burglaries can and do occur. In an effort to safeguard our licensees, the Board recommends that all pharmacy personnel familiarize themselves with joint guidance issued by the DEA and NABP.

This guidance can be accessed here:

<https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubs/brochures/pharmtheft.pdf>.

Temporary Extension of Basic Life Support Requirements

To address limited access to basic life-support training recertification, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has adopted the following guidance regarding certifications maintained by Ohio pharmacists and pharmacy interns.

Pharmacists and pharmacy interns whose basic life-support training certification is set to expire on or after March 1, 2020 will be permitted to continue to administer immunizations and dangerous drugs in accordance with section 4729.41 under the following conditions:

- The pharmacist or intern maintains documentation demonstrating their basic life-support training certification expired on or after March 1, 2020.
- The pharmacist or intern obtains recertification **no later than December 1, 2020 (formally July 29, 2020)**.

IMPORTANT: Unless circumstances warrant, the Board **does not** expect to extend this requirement past the new December 1, 2020 deadline. Licensees should plan to have their basic life-support training recertification current by December 1, 2020.

A copy of this updated waiver can be accessed here: <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/BLS2020>

New Outpatient Pharmacy Rules Effective 12/1/2020

Effective December 1, 2020, new rules for outpatient pharmacies (Chapter 4729:5-5 of the Administrative Code) go into effect. To assist licensees in complying with the new rule chapter, the Board recently published an outpatient pharmacy inspection guide (www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OPinspect).

The inspection guide aligns with internal guidance used by Board inspectors and allows licensees to conduct self-inspections to ensure compliance. The guide also includes links to the new rules, important definitions, and reminders of when a licensee is required to submit notification or additional information to the Board.

Outpatient Inspection Guide Continuing Education Opportunity

To assist with the implementation of the new outpatient pharmacy rules, the Board has developed a one-hour jurisprudence quiz. This quiz is intended to test a participant's knowledge of the new outpatient pharmacy rules and provides one contact hour (0.1 CEU) of State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy approved jurisprudence for pharmacists and registered pharmacy technicians.

For more information on the quiz, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OPquiz

Board of Pharmacy Warns of Increasing Extortion Scam Calls During COVID-19

The Board continues to receive reports of calls threatening legal action if an exorbitant fine is not paid immediately over the phone. The callers identify themselves as either Board of Pharmacy or DEA personnel and instruct their victims to pay the "fine" via wire transfer to avoid arrest, prosecution, imprisonment, and license revocation.

The reported scam tactics are continually changing, but share many of the following characteristics:

- Callers use fake names and badge numbers or names of well-known senior officials.
- The tone of calls is urgent and aggressive; callers refuse to speak or leave a message with anyone other than the person for whom they are calling.
- Callers threaten arrest, prosecution, imprisonment, and license revocation.
- Callers demand thousands of dollars via wire transfer or in the form of untraceable gift cards.
- Callers falsify the number on caller ID to appear as a legitimate phone number.
- Callers often ask for personal information, such as social security number or date of birth.
- When calling a medical practitioner, callers often reference National Provider Identifier numbers and/or state license numbers and threaten revocation of their license.

Board of Pharmacy and DEA employees do not contact healthcare providers or members of the public by telephone to demand money or any other form of payment.

Anyone receiving a telephone call from a person purporting to be a DEA or Board of Pharmacy employee seeking money should refuse the demand and report the threat using the Board's online [complaint form](#) and the DEA's [online form](#). Reporting scam calls will greatly assist the Board of Pharmacy and DEA in investigating and stopping this criminal activity.
