



**STATE OF
OHIO**
BOARD OF PHARMACY

E-News October 2022

The week of October 16-22 is National Pharmacy Week. On behalf of the Board, thank you for all that you do to help keep Ohioans safe and healthy!

Mandatory Electronic Prescribing of Schedule II Controlled Substances: Safe Harbor Provision

Under current law, prescribers are required to issue an electronic prescription when prescribing a Schedule II controlled substance, but are also provided a number of exceptions which allow them to issue a written prescription in specified circumstances.

Please note that also included under current law is a **"safe harbor"** provision that does not require a pharmacist to verify any exceptions prior to dispensing a written schedule II controlled substance prescription.

For additional information, the Board published a guidance document on the [electronic prescribing of schedule II controlled substances](#).

Rule for Stakeholder Feedback – Prohibition on the Use of Quotas (Comments Due 11.9.2022)

In 2020 and 2021, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy issued workload surveys to Ohio licensed pharmacists. These surveys formed the basis for the creation of the Board's [Pharmacist Workload Advisory Committee](#) (PWAC).

The PWAC began meeting in October 2021 to review the survey data and present a menu of options for consideration by the Board. As a result of the work of the Committee and feedback from the pharmacist community, the Board is proposing the adoption of a rule to prohibit the use of quotas in the operation of a pharmacy.

Comments on the proposed rule are due by close of business on November 9, 2022. To view the proposed rule and for instructions on how to submit comments, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/quota.

Required OARRS Review for Gabapentin Prescriptions - Effective 11/15/22

Effective November 15, 2022, OAC 4729:5-5-08 will be amended to require pharmacists to check a patient's OARRS report prior to dispensing medications containing gabapentin. This rule is intended to address an increase in the overutilization of gabapentin as reported by OARRS and Board staff. For example, 24.9% (159,163) of Ohio patients in 2020 received gabapentin from multiple prescribers. [Click here to view the amendments to the rule](#).

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day - October 29, 2022

The Next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day will take place on **October 29, 2022**

from 10am to 2pm.

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. For more information, please visit: www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/.

The Board has also published a number of resources regarding the disposal of drugs in Ohio. The resources can be found on the Board's website or by following this link: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Pubs/DrugDisposalResources.

Board Reorganizes Website to Add Compliance and Enforcement Resources

Recently, the Board updated its website to add a Compliance and Enforcement section. This section of the website contains information pertaining to the following:

- Automated Pharmacy Systems
- Drug Disposal Resources
- Inspection Guides
- Law Enforcement Resources
- Naloxone Resources
- Pharmacy Pilot Programs
- Suspicious Order Monitoring
- Theft or Loss Reporting



How Pharmacies Can Prep Now for the 2023 DSCSA Requirements

When Food and Drug Administration (FDA) enacted the [Drug Supply Chain Security Act](https://www.fda.gov/drug-supply-chain) (DSCSA) in 2013, it set a 10-year timeline for full implementation (November 2023). The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy developed a resources page to assist pharmacies in preparing for the implementation of DSCSA. For more information visit: <https://nabp.pharmacy/news/blog/how-pharmacies-can-prep-now-for-the-2023-dscsa-requirements/>.

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