Authorization for Support Personnel to Package Shipping Containers and to Package Medications for Delivery or Sale

Updated 12/14/2020

To mitigate possible workforce shortages during the COVID-19 outbreak, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has adopted the following resolution on the use of support personnel for packaging shipping containers and to package medications for delivery or sale.

Support personnel, as defined in OAC 4729:3-1-01 (Z), may place medication dispensed by a pharmacist (i.e. verified by the pharmacist) into shipping containers or packaging for delivery or sale if all the following are met:

1) The pharmacy uses barcode scanning of the drug product and patient prescription/order information to ensure accuracy of the drugs placed into shipping containers or packaging. The system must be capable of alerting pharmacy personnel if an incorrect drug product is scanned.

2) The pharmacy must develop and implement a quality assurance program to track the accuracy of the support personnel packaging the dangerous drugs.

The terminal distributor of dangerous drugs shall be responsible for ensuring all support personnel comply with state and federal requirements to ensure the confidentiality of patient health records.

This resolution is being issued in accordance with a Board resolution adopted on May 5, 2020 and shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Board.

For questions regarding this guidance, please e-mail the Board office by visiting: http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/contact.aspx.