



**STATE OF
OHIO**
BOARD OF PHARMACY

Continuous Quality Improvement & Duty to Report Rules

Comments Due 11.30.23

Earlier this year, the Board issued rules to address error reporting and continuous quality improvement processes in the operation of a pharmacy.

Comments are due by **November 30, 2023** and shall be submitted to rulecomments@pharmacy.ohio.gov

After significant feedback from the initial round of public comment, the Board is re-issuing the rules that make the following changes:

- **Rule 4729:5-3-22 (Continuous Quality Improvement Programs in Pharmacy Services):**
 - Defines an "error in dispensing" in the context of the [National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention Medication Error Index](#) (Revised 2/20/2001). NOTE: Category A is not included in the definition of an error because it reads as, "Category A: Circumstances or events that have the capacity to cause error."
 - If applicable, allows the required quality assurance review to be conducted by a quality assurance committee established under ORC [2305.24](#).
 - Removes timeframe to begin investigation of an error in dispensing and instead requires licensees to complete "as soon as is reasonable possible."
 - Removes the requirement for the pharmacist to communicate any errors to the patient. Rather, a representative of the licensee is required to communicate errors to patients under certain conditions.
- **Rule 4729:1-4-02 (Duty to Report – Pharmacists):**
 - Provides a new definition of error in dispensing to coincide with the definition in proposed rule 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code.

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- **Rule 4729:2-4-02 (Duty to Report – Pharmacy Interns):**
 - Provides a new definition of error in dispensing to coincide with the definition in proposed rule 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code.
- **Rule 4729:3-4-02 (Duty to Report – Pharmacy Technicians):**
 - Provides a new definition of error in dispensing to coincide with the definition in proposed rule 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code.
- **Rule 4729:5-4-02 (Duty to Report – Pharmacies):**
 - Requires pharmacies to report the following errors to the Board:
 1. Any error in dispensing when the error is the result of reckless behavior.
 2. Any error in dispensing where the error results in any of the following per the National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention Medication Error Index (Revised 2/20/2001):
 - Category F: An error occurred that resulted in initial or prolonged hospitalization and caused temporary patient harm.
 - Category G: An error occurred that resulted in permanent patient harm.
 - Category H: An error occurred that resulted in a near-death event (e.g., anaphylaxis, cardiac arrest).
 - Category I: An error occurred that resulted in patient death.
- **Rule 4729:1-4-01 Disciplinary actions. (AMEND) [Pharmacists]:**
 - Adds definition of “reckless” and “at-risk” behavior.
 - Exempts a pharmacist from any disciplinary action related to an error in dispensing or compounding product quality (OAC 4729:7-2-03) issue except in the case of “reckless” or “at-risk” behavior.

- **Rule 4729:2-4-01 Disciplinary actions. (AMEND) [Pharmacy Intern]:**
 - Adds definition of “reckless” and “at-risk” behavior.
 - Exempts a pharmacy intern from any disciplinary action related to an error in dispensing or compounding product quality issue except in the case of “reckless” or “at-risk” behavior.

- **Rule 4729:3-4-01 Disciplinary actions. (AMEND) [Pharmacy Technicians]:**
 - Adds definition of “reckless” and “at-risk” behavior.
 - Exempts a pharmacy technician from any disciplinary action related to an error in dispensing or compounding product quality issue (OAC 4729:7-2-03) except in the case of “reckless” or “at-risk” behavior.

**4729:5-3-22 - Continuous Quality Improvement Programs in Pharmacy Services.
(NEW)**

(A) As used in this rule:

"Error in dispensing" or "prescription error" means an act or omission of clinical significance, which may be considered a violation of division (A)(2) of section [3715.52](#) and section [3715.64](#) of the Revised Code, relating to the dispensing of a drug that meets any of the following as defined by the National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention Medication Error Index (Revised 2/20/2001):

(1) Category B: An error occurred, but the medication did not reach the patient.

(2) Category C: An error occurred that reached the patient but did not cause patient harm.

(3) Category D: An error occurred that resulted in the need for increased patient monitoring but no patient harm.

(4) Category E: An error occurred that resulted in the need for treatment or intervention and caused temporary patient harm.

(5) Category F: An error occurred that resulted in initial or prolonged hospitalization and caused temporary patient harm.

(6) Category G: An error occurred that resulted in permanent patient harm.

(7) Category H: An error occurred that resulted in a near-death event (e.g., anaphylaxis, cardiac arrest).

(8) Category I: An error occurred that resulted in patient death.

(B) Each pharmacy licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs shall establish or participate in an established quality assurance program that documents and assesses errors in dispensing to determine cause and an appropriate response to improve the quality of pharmacy service and prevent errors.

(C) Each quality assurance program shall be managed in accordance with written policies and procedures maintained in the pharmacy to be made immediately available to an agent, inspector, or employee of the board.

(D) When a pharmacy determines that a prescription error has occurred, a representative of the terminal distributor of dangerous drugs shall as soon as possible:

(1) Communicate to the patient or the patient's caregiver the fact that an error in dispensing has occurred, and the steps required to avoid injury or mitigate the error.

(2) Communicate to the prescriber the fact that an error in dispensing has occurred.

(3) The communication requirement of this paragraph shall only apply to prescription errors in Categories C through I as listed in paragraph (A) of this rule.

(E) If a pharmacy is notified of a prescription error by the patient, the patient's caregiver, or a prescriber, a representative of the terminal distributor of dangerous drugs is not required to communicate with that individual as required in paragraph (D) of this rule.

(G) Each pharmacy shall use the findings of its quality assurance program to develop pharmacy systems and workflow processes designed to prevent errors in dispensing. An investigation of each error in dispensing shall commence as soon as is reasonably possible. All errors in dispensing discovered shall be subject to a quality assurance review within thirty days of identifying an error.

(F)

(1) The primary purpose of the quality assurance review (e.g., root cause analysis) shall be to advance error prevention by analyzing, individually and collectively, investigative, and other pertinent data collected in response to an error in dispensing to assess the cause and any contributing factors such as system or process failures. A record of the quality assurance review shall be immediately retrievable in the pharmacy. The record shall contain at least the following:

(a) The date, location, and participants in the quality assurance review;

(b) The pertinent data and other information relating to the prescription error(s) reviewed and documentation of any patient contact required;

(c) The findings and determinations generated by the quality assurance review; and

(d) Recommend changes to pharmacy policy, procedure, systems, or processes, if any.

(2) If applicable, a quality assurance review may be conducted by a quality assurance committee established in accordance with section 2305.24 of the Revised Code.

(G) In accordance with section 4729.23 of the Revised Code, the record of the quality assurance review, as established in paragraph (F) of this rule, shall be maintained for three years from the date of creation in a readily retrievable manner.

(H) The terminal distributor of dangerous drugs shall inform pharmacy personnel of changes to pharmacy policy, procedure, systems, or processes made as a result of recommendations generated in the quality assurance review.

(I) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a pharmacy from contracting or otherwise arranging for the provision of personnel or other resources, by a third party or

administrative offices, with such skill or expertise as the pharmacy believes to be necessary to satisfy the requirements of this rule.

(J) The pharmacy shall comply with the reporting requirements for prescription errors pursuant to rule 4729:5-4-02 of the Administrative Code.

Rule 4729:1-4-02 | Duty to report. (PHARMACISTS) (RESCIND ORIGINAL / NEW)

(A) As used in this rule, "error in dispensing" or "prescription error" has the same meaning as 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code.

(B) Pursuant to section [4729.10](#) of the Revised Code, a pharmacist who has knowledge, from direct observation or objective evidence, of violations described in paragraph (C) of this rule shall report such conduct to the state board of pharmacy.

(C) The following shall be reported to the board no later than ten days from discovery:

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (C)(1)(a) of this rule, conduct indicating an individual licensed or registered by the board is addicted to or is suspected to be abusing alcohol, drugs or other chemical substances or impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render the individual unfit to carry out their professional duties.

(a) A pharmacist shall not be required to report in accordance with this rule if the pharmacist becomes aware of any condition described in paragraph (C)(1) of this rule as a result of either:

(i) The pharmacist's treatment of the individual for the condition; or

(ii) The pharmacist having access to the individual's protected health information.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (H) of this rule, violations, attempts to violate, or aiding and abetting in the violation of any of the provisions of Chapters 4729., 4752., 3715., 3719., 3796., 2925., and 2913. of the Revised Code, or any rule adopted by the board under those provisions, by an individual or entity licensed or registered by the board.

(3) Conduct by a pharmacy technician trainee, registered pharmacy technician, certified pharmacy technician, pharmacy intern or pharmacist that constitutes unprofessional conduct or dishonesty as defined in rule [4729:1-4-01](#) of the Administrative Code.

(D)

(1) Pursuant to section [4729.23](#) of the Revised Code, the identity of the pharmacist making a report in accordance with this rule shall remain confidential.

(2) Notwithstanding the confidentiality provided in accordance with paragraph (D)(1) of this rule, a pharmacist may be required to testify in a disciplinary proceeding as to the conduct or violations listed in paragraph (C) of this rule without disclosing the pharmacist was the reporting individual.

(E) Reporting required in accordance with this rule shall be made in writing, either by mail, using the board's online complaint form (available on the board's web site: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov), or by telephone and shall include the following information:

- (1) The name of the licensee, registrant or other individual who may have committed a violation listed in paragraph (C) of this rule;
- (2) The violation which is believed to have occurred; and
- (3) The date(s) of and place(s) of occurrence(s), if known.

(F) A licensed pharmacist shall notify the board of any of the following:

- (1) Any criminal conviction for, judicial finding of guilt of, or plea of guilty to a disqualifying offense within ten days after the date of conviction.
- (2) The pharmacist is convicted of, plead guilty to, is subject to a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction in this state under section [2951.041](#) of the Revised Code or the equivalent thereof in another jurisdiction within ten days after the individual is deemed eligible.
- (3) The pharmacist is granted entry into a diversion program, deferred prosecution program, or the equivalent thereof within ten days after the individual is granted entry into a program.
- (4) Any arrest for a felony within ten days after the arrest.

(G) A pharmacist shall notify the board of any disciplinary licensing or registration action taken by another state against the licensee within ten days of the notice action. This includes, but is not limited to, a disciplinary action that is stayed pending appeal.

(H) An error in dispensing shall only be reported to the board by a pharmacy in accordance with rule 4729:5-4-02 of the Administrative Code.

(I) Pursuant to section [4729.10](#) of the Revised Code, in the absence of fraud or bad faith, a person who reports in accordance with this rule or testifies in any adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code is not liable to any person for damages in a civil action as a result of the report or testimony.

Rule 4729:2-4-02 | Duty to report. (PHARMACY INTERNS) (RESCIND ORIGINAL / NEW)

(A) As used in this rule, "error in dispensing" or "prescription error" has the same meaning as 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code.

(B) Pursuant to section [4729.10](#) of the Revised Code, a pharmacy intern who has knowledge, from direct observation or objective evidence, of violations described in paragraph (C) of this rule shall report such conduct to the state board of pharmacy.

(C) The following shall be reported to the board no later than ten days from discovery:

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (C)(1)(a) of this rule, conduct indicating an individual licensed or registered by the board is addicted to or is suspected to be abusing alcohol, drugs or other chemical substances or impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render the individual unfit to carry out their professional duties.

(a) A pharmacy intern shall not be required to report in accordance with this rule if the intern becomes aware of any condition described in paragraph (C)(1) of this rule as a result of either:

(i) The intern's treatment of the individual for the condition; or

(ii) The intern having access to the individual's protected health information.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (H) of this rule, violations, attempts to violate, or aiding and abetting in the violation of any of the provisions of Chapters 4729., 3715., 3719., 2925., and 2913. of the Revised Code, or any rule adopted by the board under those provisions, by an individual licensed or registered by the board.

(3) Conduct by a pharmacy technician trainee, registered pharmacy technician, certified pharmacy technician, pharmacy intern or pharmacist that constitutes unprofessional conduct or dishonesty as defined in rule [4729:2-4-01](#) of the Administrative Code.

(D)

(1) Pursuant to section [4729.23](#) of the Revised Code, the identity of the pharmacy intern making a report in accordance with this rule shall remain confidential.

(2) Notwithstanding the confidentiality provided in accordance with paragraph (D) (1) of this rule, a pharmacy intern may be required to testify in a disciplinary proceeding as to the conduct or violations listed in paragraph (C) of this rule without disclosing the intern was the reporting individual.

(E) Reporting required in accordance this rule shall be made in writing, either by mail, using the board's online complaint form (available on the board's web site: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov), or by telephone and shall include the following information:

- (1) The name of the licensee, registrant or other individual who may have committed a violation listed in paragraph (C) of this rule;
- (2) The violation which is believed to have occurred; and
- (3) The date(s) of and place(s) of occurrence(s), if known.

(F) A licensed pharmacy intern shall notify the board of any of the following:

- (1) Any criminal conviction for, judicial finding of guilt of, or plea of guilty to a disqualifying offense within ten days after the date of conviction.
- (2) The intern is convicted of, plead guilty to, is subject to a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction in this state under section [2951.041](#) of the Revised Code or the equivalent thereof in another jurisdiction within ten days after the individual is deemed eligible.
- (3) The intern is granted entry into a diversion program, deferred prosecution program, or the equivalent thereof within ten days after the individual is granted entry into a program.
- (4) Any arrest for a felony within ten days after the arrest.

(G) A pharmacy intern shall notify the board of any disciplinary licensing or registration action taken by another state against the licensee within ten days of the notice action. This includes, but is not limited to, a disciplinary action that is stayed pending appeal.

(H) An error in dispensing shall only be reported to the board by a pharmacy in accordance with rule 4729:5-4-02 of the Administrative Code.

(I) Pursuant to section [4729.10](#) of the Revised Code, in the absence of fraud or bad faith, a person who reports in accordance with this rule or testifies in any adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code is not liable to any person for damages in a civil action as a result of the report or testimony.

Rule 4729:3-4-02 | Duty to report. (PHARMACY TECHNICIANS) (RESCIND ORIGINAL / NEW)

(A) As used in this rule, "error in dispensing" or "prescription error" has the same meaning as 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code.

(B) Pursuant to section [4729.10](#) of the Revised Code, a pharmacy technician trainee, registered pharmacy technician or certified pharmacy technician who has knowledge, from direct observation or objective evidence, of violations described in paragraph (C) of this rule shall report such conduct to the board.

(C) The following shall be reported to the board no later than ten days from discovery:

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (C)(1)(a) of this rule, conduct indicating an individual licensed or registered by the board is addicted to or is suspected to be abusing alcohol, drugs or other chemical substances or impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render the individual unfit to carry out their professional duties.

(a) A registrant shall not be required to report in accordance with this rule if the registrant becomes aware of any condition described in paragraph (C)(1) of this rule as a result of either:

(i) The registrant is involved in the treatment of the individual for the condition; or

(ii) The registrant having access to the individual's protected health information.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (H) of this rule, violations, attempts to violate, or aiding and abetting in the violation of any of the provisions of Chapters 4729., 3715., 3719., 2925., and 2913. of the Revised Code, or any rule adopted by the board under those provisions, by an individual licensed or registered by the board.

(3) Conduct by a pharmacy technician trainee, registered pharmacy technician, certified pharmacy technician, pharmacy intern or pharmacist that constitutes unprofessional conduct or dishonesty as defined in rule [4729:3-4-01](#) of the Administrative Code.

(D)

(1) Pursuant to section [4729.23](#) of the Revised Code, the identity of the registrant making a report in accordance with this rule shall remain confidential.

(2) Notwithstanding the confidentiality provided in accordance with paragraph (D)(1) of this rule, a registrant may be required to testify in a disciplinary proceeding as to the conduct or violations listed in paragraph (C) of this rule without disclosing the registrant was the reporting individual.

(E) Reporting required in accordance with paragraph (C) this rule shall be made in writing, either by mail or using the board's online complaint form (available on the board's web site: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov), or by telephone and shall include the following information:

(1) The name of the licensee or registrant or other individual who may have committed a violation listed in paragraph (C) of this rule;

(2) The violation which is believed to have occurred; and

(3) The date(s) of and place(s) of occurrence(s), if known.

(F) An individual registered pursuant to this division shall notify the board of any of the following:

(1) Any criminal conviction for, judicial finding of guilt of, or plea of guilty to a disqualifying offense within ten days after the date of conviction.

(2) The registrant is convicted of, plead guilty to, is subject to a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction in this state under section [2951.041](#) of the Revised Code or the equivalent thereof in another jurisdiction within ten days after the individual is deemed eligible.

(3) The registrant is granted entry into a diversion program, deferred prosecution program, or the equivalent thereof within ten days after the individual is granted entry into a program.

(4) Any arrest for a felony within ten days after the arrest.

(5) For a certified pharmacy technician, failure to maintain a current pharmacy technician certification from an organization that has been recognized by the board.

(G) An individual registered pursuant to this division shall notify the board of any disciplinary licensing or registration action taken by another state against the registrant within ten days of the notice of action. This includes, but is not limited to, a disciplinary action that is stayed pending appeal.

(H) An error in dispensing shall only be reported to the board by a pharmacy in accordance with rule 4729:5-4-02 of the Administrative Code.

(I) Pursuant to section [4729.10](#) of the Revised Code, in the absence of fraud or bad faith, a person who reports in accordance with this rule or testifies in any adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code is not liable to any person for damages in a civil action as a result of the report or testimony.

Rule 4729:5-4-02 | Duty to Report. (PHARMACIES) (NEW)

(A) As used in this rule:

(1) "Error in dispensing" or "prescription error" has the same meaning as 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code.

(2) "Reckless behavior" means a person who acts recklessly or who is reckless. A person acts recklessly when, with heedless indifference to the consequences, the person disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the person's conduct is likely to cause a certain result or is likely to be of a certain nature. A person is reckless with respect to circumstances when, with heedless indifference to the consequences, the person disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that such circumstances are likely to exist.

(3) "Unprofessional conduct" means conduct that is detrimental to the best interests of the public, including conduct that endangers the health, safety or welfare of a patient or client. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following acts: coercion, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, improper use of private health information, threats, degradation of character, indecent or obscene conduct, and theft.

(B) A pharmacy licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs shall be required to report, from direct observation or objective evidence, the following to the board in accordance with paragraph (C) of this rule:

(1) Any error in dispensing when the error is the result of reckless behavior.

(2) Any error in dispensing where the error results in any of the following per the National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention Medication Error Index (Revised 2/20/2001):

(a) Category F: An error occurred that resulted in initial or prolonged hospitalization and caused temporary patient harm.

(b) Category G: An error occurred that resulted in permanent patient harm.

(c) Category H: An error occurred that resulted in a near-death event (e.g., anaphylaxis, cardiac arrest).

(d) Category I: An error occurred that resulted in patient death.

(3) The termination or resignation of employment of any individual licensed or registered by the board that was based, in whole or in part, on an error or errors in dispensing.

(4) The termination or resignation of employment of any individual licensed or registered by the board that was based, in whole or in part, on engaging in unprofessional conduct or reckless behavior.

(5) The termination or resignation of employment of any individual licensed or registered by the board that was based, in whole or in part, on the individual being addicted to or suspected of abusing alcohol, drugs or other chemical substances or impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render the individual unfit to carry out their professional duties.

(C) Reporting required in accordance with this rule shall be made in writing, either by mail, using the board's online complaint form (available on the board's website: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov) or by telephone and shall include the following information:

(1) The name of the employer and the employer's terminal distributor license number;

(2) The full name and license or registration number of the licensee or registrant for which a report is being made;

(3) If applicable, an explanation of the error in dispensing that occurred, including details regarding any patient harm;

(4) If applicable, an explanation of the circumstances that resulted in the individual's termination or resignation from employment; and

(5) The date(s) of and place(s) of occurrence(s), if known.

(D) All required reporting shall be submitted to the board no later than:

(1) For an error in dispensing pursuant to paragraphs (B)(1) through (B)(3) of this rule, ten days from the date the quality assurance program review in accordance with rule 4729:5-3-22 was completed; and

(2) For the termination or resignation of employee pursuant to paragraphs (B)(4) and (B)(5) of this rule, ten days from the date the individual is terminated or resigns from employment.

(E) Notwithstanding any provision of agency 4729 of the Administrative Code, a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, registered pharmacy technician, or pharmacy technician trainee shall not be required to make a report to the board pursuant to the applicable duty to report rules in divisions 4729:1, 4729:2, and 4729:3 of the Administrative Code if the licensee or registrant is employed by or under contract with a pharmacy licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs and the terminal distributor is required to submit a report in accordance with paragraph (B) of this rule.

Rule 4729:1-4-01 | Disciplinary actions. (AMEND) [Pharmacists]

(A) As used in this rule:

(1) "Dishonesty" means any action by a licensee, registrant or applicant to include, but is not limited to, making any statement that deceives, misrepresents or misleads, or be a party to or an accessory to any fraudulent or deceitful practice or transaction in the practice of pharmacy or in the operation or conduct of a pharmacy.

(2) "Unprofessional conduct" has the same meaning as defined in division (C) of section 4729.16 of the Revised Code and shall also include conduct that is detrimental to the best interests of the public, including conduct that endangers the health, safety or welfare of a patient or client. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following acts: coercion, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, improper use of private health information, threats, degradation of character, indecent or obscene conduct, and theft.

(3) "Reckless behavior" means a person who acts recklessly or who is reckless. A person acts recklessly when, with heedless indifference to the consequences, the person disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the person's conduct is likely to cause a certain result or is likely to be of a certain nature. A person is reckless with respect to circumstances when, with heedless indifference to the consequences, the person disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that such circumstances are likely to exist.

(4) "At-risk behavior" means behavioral choices that are made when individuals have lost the perception of risk associated with a choice or mistakenly believe the risk to be insignificant or justified.

(B)

(1) The state board of pharmacy, after notice and hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, may impose any one or more of the following sanctions on a pharmacist or applicant for a pharmacist license if the board finds the individual engaged in any of the conduct set forth in paragraph (B)(2) of this rule:

(a) Revoke, suspend, restrict, limit, or refuse to grant or renew a license;

(b) Reprimand or place the license holder on probation;

(c) Impose a monetary penalty or forfeiture not to exceed in severity any fine designated under the Revised Code for a similar offense, or in the case of a violation of a section of the Revised Code that does not bear a penalty, a monetary penalty or forfeiture of not more than five hundred dollars.

(2) The board may impose the sanctions listed in paragraph (B)(1) of this rule if the board finds a pharmacist or applicant for a pharmacist license:

(a) Has a criminal conviction for, judicial finding of guilt of, or plea of guilty to a disqualifying offense.

- (b) Engaged in dishonesty or unprofessional conduct in the practice of pharmacy.
- (c) Is addicted to or abusing alcohol or drugs or is impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render the pharmacist unfit to practice pharmacy.
- (d) **Except as provided for in paragraph (B)(1)(r) of this rule,** violated, conspired to violate, attempted to violate, or aided and abetted the violation of any of the provisions of Chapter 4729. of the Revised Code, sections 3715.52 to 3715.72 of the Revised Code, Chapter 2925., 3796., 3719. or 4752. of the Revised Code, or any rule adopted by the board under those provisions.
- (e) Permitted someone other than a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to practice pharmacy.
- (f) Knowingly lent the pharmacist's name to an illegal practitioner of pharmacy or had a professional connection with an illegal practitioner of pharmacy.
- (g) Divided or agreed to divide remuneration made in the practice of pharmacy with any other individual, including, but not limited to, any licensed health professional authorized to prescribe drugs or any owner, manager, or employee of a health care facility, residential care facility, or nursing home.
- (h) Violated the terms of a consult agreement entered into pursuant to section 4729.39 of the Revised Code.
- (i) Committed fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in applying for or securing a license issued by the board under this chapter or under Chapter 3796., 3715., 3719. or 4752. of the Revised Code.
- (j) Failed to comply with an order of the board or a settlement agreement.
- (k) Violated any state or federal law, regulation or rule regardless of the jurisdiction in which the acts were committed, except for minor traffic violations such as parking violations, speeding tickets and violations such as failure to obey a red light, failure to use a turn signal or expired vehicle registration.
- (l) Has been disciplined by the state board of pharmacy pursuant to section 4729.16 of the Revised Code.
- (m) Has been the subject of any of the following by the drug enforcement administration or licensing agency of any state or jurisdiction:
 - (i) A disciplinary action that resulted in the suspension, probation, surrender or revocation of the person's license or registration.
 - (ii) A disciplinary action that was based, in whole or in part, on the person's inappropriate prescribing, dispensing, diverting, administering, storing, securing, personally furnishing, compounding, supplying or selling a controlled substance or other dangerous drug.
- (n) Failed to conform to prevailing standards of care of similar pharmacists under the same or similar circumstances, whether or not actual injury to a patient is established.

(o) Has been subject to any of the following:

(i) A finding by a court of the person's eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction; or

(ii) A finding by a court of the person's eligibility for treatment or intervention in lieu of conviction in another jurisdiction.

(p) Has been granted entry into a diversion program, deferred prosecution program, or the equivalent thereof.

(q) Cannot practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care by reason of mental illness or physical illness, including, but not limited to, physical deterioration that adversely affects cognitive, motor, or perceptive skills.

(r) Is responsible for any of the following but only as a result of reckless or at-risk behavior:

(i) An error in dispensing as defined in rule 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code;

(ii) A product quality issue for any compounded drug preparation as defined in rule 4729:7-2-03 of the Administrative Code.

Rule 4729:2-4-01 | Disciplinary actions. (AMEND) [Pharmacy Interns]

(A) As used in this rule:

(1) "Dishonesty" means any action by a licensee, registrant or applicant to include, but is not limited to, making any statement that deceives, misrepresents or misleads, or be a party to or an accessory to any fraudulent or deceitful practice or transaction in the practice of pharmacy or in the operation or conduct of a pharmacy.

(2) "Unprofessional conduct" has the same meaning as defined in division (C) of section [4729.16](#) of the Revised Code and shall also include conduct that is detrimental to the best interests of the public, including conduct that endangers the health, safety or welfare of a patient or client. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following acts: coercion, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, improper use of private health information, threats, degradation of character, indecent or obscene conduct, and theft.

(3) "Reckless behavior" means a person who acts recklessly or who is reckless. A person acts recklessly when, with heedless indifference to the consequences, the person disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the person's conduct is likely to cause a certain result or is likely to be of a certain nature. A person is reckless with respect to circumstances when, with heedless indifference to the consequences, the person disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that such circumstances are likely to exist.

(4) "At-risk behavior" means behavioral choices that are made when individuals have lost the perception of risk associated with a choice or mistakenly believe the risk to be insignificant or justified.

(B)

(1) The state board of pharmacy, after notice and hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, may impose any one or more of the following sanctions on a pharmacy intern or applicant for a pharmacy intern license if the board finds the individual engaged in any of the conduct set forth in paragraph (B)(2) of this rule:

(a) Revoke, suspend, restrict, limit, or refuse to grant or renew a license;

(b) Reprimand or place the license holder on probation;

(c) Impose a monetary penalty or forfeiture not to exceed in severity any fine designated under the Revised Code for a similar offense, or in the case of a violation of a section of the Revised Code that does not bear a penalty, a monetary penalty or forfeiture of not more than five hundred dollars.

(2) The board may impose the sanctions listed in paragraph (B)(1) of this rule if the board finds a pharmacy intern or applicant for a pharmacy intern license:

- (a) Has a criminal conviction for, judicial finding of guilt of, or plea of guilty to a disqualifying offense.
- (b) Engaged in dishonesty or unprofessional conduct in the practice of pharmacy.
- (c) Is addicted to or abusing alcohol or drugs or is impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render the pharmacy intern unfit to practice pharmacy.
- (d) **Except as provided for in paragraph (B)(1)(p) of this rule,** Violated, conspired to violate, attempted to violate, or aided and abetted the violation of any of the provisions of Chapter 4729. of the Revised Code, sections [3715.52](#) to [3715.72](#) of the Revised Code, Chapter 2925., 3796., 3719. or 4752. of the Revised Code, or any rule adopted by the board under those provisions.
- (e) Knowingly lent the pharmacy intern's name to an illegal practitioner of pharmacy or had a professional connection with an illegal practitioner of pharmacy.
- (f) Divided or agreed to divide remuneration made in the practice of pharmacy with any other individual, including, but not limited to, any licensed health professional authorized to prescribe drugs or any owner, manager, or employee of a health care facility, residential care facility, or nursing home.
- (g) Committed fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in applying for or securing a license issued by the board under this chapter or under Chapter 3796., 3715., 3719. or 4752. of the Revised Code.
- (h) Failed to comply with an order of the board or a settlement agreement.
- (i) Violated any state or federal law, regulation or rule regardless of the jurisdiction in which the acts were committed, except for minor traffic violations such as parking violations, speeding tickets and violations such as failure to obey a red light, failure to use a turn signal or expired vehicle registration.
- (j) Has been disciplined by the state board of pharmacy pursuant to section [4729.16](#) of the Revised Code.
- (k) Has been the subject of any of the following by the drug enforcement administration or licensing agency of any state or jurisdiction:
 - (i) A disciplinary action that resulted in the suspension, probation, surrender or revocation of the person's license or registration.
 - (ii) A disciplinary action that was based, in whole or in part, on the person's inappropriate prescribing, dispensing, diverting, administering, storing, securing, personally furnishing, compounding, supplying or selling a controlled substance or other dangerous drug.
- (l) Failed to conform to prevailing standards of care of similar pharmacy interns under the same or similar circumstances, whether or not actual injury to a patient is established.
- (m) Has been subject to any of the following:

(i) A finding by a court of the person's eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction; or
(ii) A finding by a court of the person's eligibility for treatment or intervention in lieu of conviction in another jurisdiction.

(n) Has been granted entry into a diversion program, deferred prosecution program, or the equivalent thereof.

(o) Cannot practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care by reason of mental illness or physical illness, including, but not limited to, physical deterioration that adversely affects cognitive, motor, or perceptive skills.

(p) Is responsible for any of the following but only as a result of reckless or at-risk behavior:

(i) An error in dispensing as defined in rule 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code;

(ii) A product quality issue for any compounded drug preparation as defined in rule 4729:7-2-03 of the Administrative Code.

Rule 4729:3-4-01 | Disciplinary actions. (AMEND) [Pharmacy Technicians]

(A) As used in this rule:

(1) "Dishonesty" means any action by a licensee, registrant or applicant to include, but is not limited to, making any statement that deceives, misrepresents or misleads, or be a party to or an accessory to any fraudulent or deceitful practice or transaction in the practice of pharmacy or in the operation or conduct of a pharmacy.

(2) "Unprofessional conduct" means conduct that is detrimental to the best interests of the public, including conduct that endangers the health, safety or welfare of a patient or client. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following acts: coercion, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, improper use of private health information, threats, degradation of character, indecent or obscene conduct, and theft.

(B) The state board of pharmacy, after notice and hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, may impose one or more of the following sanctions on a pharmacy technician trainee, registered pharmacy technician, certified pharmacy technician or applicant for such registration if the board finds the individual engaged in any of the conduct set forth in paragraph (C) of this rule:

(1) Revoke, suspend, restrict, limit, or refuse to grant or renew a registration;

(2) Reprimand or place the holder of the registration on probation;

(3) Impose a monetary penalty or forfeiture not to exceed in severity any fine designated under the Revised Code for a similar offense, or in the case of a violation of a section of the Revised Code that does not bear a penalty, a monetary penalty or forfeiture as specified in section [4729.96](#) of the Revised Code.

(C) The board may impose the sanctions listed in paragraph (B) of this rule if the board finds a pharmacy technician trainee, registered pharmacy technician, certified pharmacy technician or applicant for such registration:

(1) **Except as provided in paragraph (C)(9) of this rule,** has engaged in any of the conduct specified in division (A)(2) of section [4729.96](#) of the Revised Code.

(2) Violated any state or federal law or rule regardless of the jurisdiction in which the acts were committed, except for minor traffic violations such as parking violations, speeding tickets and violations such as failure to obey a red light, failure to use a turn signal or expired registration.

(3) Has been disciplined by the state board of pharmacy pursuant to section [4729.96](#) of the Revised Code.

(4) Has been the subject of any of the following by the drug enforcement administration or licensing agency of any state or jurisdiction:

(a) A disciplinary action that resulted in the suspension, probation, surrender or revocation of the person's license or registration.

(b) A disciplinary action that was based, in whole or in part, on the person's inappropriate prescribing, dispensing, diverting, administering, storing, securing, personally furnishing, compounding, supplying or selling a controlled substance or other dangerous drug.

(5) Has been subject to any of the following:

(a) A finding by a court of the person's eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction; or

(b) A finding by a court of the person's eligibility for treatment or intervention in lieu of conviction in another jurisdiction.

(6) Has been granted entry into a diversion program, deferred prosecution program, or the equivalent thereof.

(7) Cannot conduct authorized activities according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care by reason of mental illness or physical illness, including, but not limited to, physical deterioration that adversely affects cognitive, motor, or perceptive skills.

(8) Engaged in dishonesty or unprofessional conduct.

(9) Is responsible for any of the following but only as a result of reckless or at-risk behavior:

(a) An error in dispensing as defined in rule 4729:5-3-22 of the Administrative Code;

(b) A product quality issue for any compounded drug preparation as defined in rule 4729:7-2-03 of the Administrative Code.

(D) The board may require that an individual whose registration has been suspended may not be employed by or work in a facility licensed by the state board of pharmacy to possess or distribute dangerous drugs during such period of suspension.