



# Board of Pharmacy

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## State Medical Board of Ohio, Ohio Board of Pharmacy, and Ohio Board of Nursing Issue Joint Regulatory Statement on Retail IV Therapy Clinics

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For Immediate Release

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Columbus, Ohio - In response to the increasing number of retail IV therapy clinics operating in the state, the State Medical Board of Ohio, Ohio Board of Pharmacy, and Ohio Board of Nursing (collectively the "Boards") issued a joint regulatory statement today highlighting critical patient safety concerns and the importance of regulatory compliance in this emerging sector (a copy of the joint statement can be [accessed here](#)).

"As medical regulators, the responsibility of ensuring safe boundaries with emerging trends falls to us," said Medical Board Executive Director Stephanie Loucka. "The Medical Board is committed to enforcing its laws and rules to ensure that Ohio patients are treated by appropriately licensed and trained medical providers, in any setting."

Retail IV therapy clinics have proliferated across Ohio, often offering the administration of preselected IV fluid "cocktails" that include a mix of saline, vitamins, prescription drugs, and amino acids. While these services claim to treat conditions such as dehydration, migraines, and to enhance athletic recovery, the Boards emphasize that such IV therapy is a medical practice requiring licensed professionals and compliance with Ohio laws and regulations.

"The Board of Pharmacy has rules in place to ensure the safe preparation of IVs and other drug therapies administered by these clinics," said Pharmacy Board Executive Director Steven W. Schierholt. "Failure to comply with these standards can have serious adverse impacts on patient health."

The joint regulatory statement includes important reminders about the use of qualified staff to diagnose and treat patients, adhering to the scope of practice for healthcare providers established by law, compliance with Ohio's drug compounding rules, appropriate use of drug administration protocols, ensuring proper clinic oversight, and other concerns observed by the Boards.

"Nurses engaging in practice in IV therapy clinics or elsewhere are obligated to act deliberately and responsibly, by fully understanding and complying with Ohio law and rules summarized in the joint regulatory statement, to ensure the safety and protection of the patients in their care," said Board of Nursing Executive Director Marlene Anielski.

The Boards urge all licensed professionals to review their legal responsibilities and confirm compliance with state laws and rules as outlined in the joint regulatory statement. As the practice of retail IV therapy continues to evolve, it is imperative that Ohio healthcare providers uphold the highest standards of practice to safeguard patient health and safety.



***People call, text, and chat the 988 Lifeline to talk about a lot of emotional needs—not just thoughts of suicide. Whatever your reason, the #988Lifeline is there to help. There is hope.***

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Ohio Board of Pharmacy  
**Mike DeWine**, *Governor* | **Steven W. Schierholt**, *Executive Director*

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