



Temporary Authorization to Move Dangerous Drugs in the Event of an Emergency

Updated 6/1/2020

UPDATED 6/1/2020: Licensees registered with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration must also notify the local DEA field office of any situations involving the security of controlled substances or the temporary relocation of any controlled substances to another location. [Click here to locate your local DEA field office.](#)

To address emergency situations where a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDD) is unable to maintain the security of its drug stock, the Ohio Board of Pharmacy has issued the following guidance authorizing the temporary movement of drug stock to another in-state location.

If a terminal distributor is unable to maintain the security and control of its drug stock due to an emergency, the licensee is temporarily authorized to move/transfer any of the drugs to another location in accordance with the following:

1. By law and rule, licensees are permitted to transfer drug stock to another commonly owned terminal distributor in accordance with rule [4729:5-3-09](#) of the Administrative Code. If it is not feasible/practical to transfer the drug stock to another licensed location, the terminal distributor may utilize a secure, unlicensed facility located in Ohio if access to the drug stock is limited to authorized persons.
2. Any drug stock that is temporary housed at another location must be kept separate and not be co-mingled with another facility's drug inventory. **NOTE:** This requirement does not apply if a licensee transfers the drug stock to another commonly owned location licensed as a TDDD in accordance with rule [4729:5-3-09](#) of the Administrative Code.

3. The licensee must notify the Board of Pharmacy by email within three business days of moving dangerous drugs to a new location. Licensees must send the following information to the Board's Compliance and Enforcement Department (compliance@pharmacy.ohio.gov):
 - Name, address, and license number of the original licensed location;
 - Name, phone number, and email address of a contact person;
 - Name, address, and license number (if applicable) of the new location where the drugs will be moved; and
 - A brief description of the emergency situation.
4. The licensee must maintain records of all drugs moved from the original site that includes the name, strength, dosage form, and quantity of the dangerous drugs moved/transferred.
5. Movement of the drug stock should be conducted or supervised by the following:
 - For a licensed pharmacy, an Ohio-licensed pharmacist.
 - For any other terminal distributor, an Ohio-licensed prescriber (i.e. MD/DO, DPM, APRN, PA, DDS) or an Ohio-licensed pharmacist.

As a reminder, licensees are required to report the theft or significant loss of all dangerous drugs (both controlled and non-controlled). For more information on this requirement, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/theft.