

## **EMERGENCY RULE**

### **Department of Health Board of Pharmacy**

#### Administration of Medications (LAC 46:LIII.521)

The Louisiana Board of Pharmacy is exercising the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, specifically at R.S. 49:953(B), to promulgate an emergency rule to authorize pharmacy technicians to qualify for and obtain a Medication Administration Registration which will authorize them to administer medications including immunizations.

The Board's current rules permit pharmacists and pharmacy interns to administer medications after obtaining a Medication Administration Registration. The proposed rule change will allow pharmacy technicians to qualify for and obtain a Medication Administration Registration. The proposed rule change will increase the number of pharmacy personnel trained and authorized to administer medications.

As the availability of a vaccine for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) draws near, the Board anticipates the demand for pharmacy personnel to administer the vaccine will increase. Further, the Board anticipates that demand will be increased by the concurrent flu season. The Board proposes to amend the rule for medication administration registrations to authorize pharmacy technicians to qualify for and obtain such a registration, which will increase the number of pharmacy personnel authorized to administer medications including immunizations.

Given the time necessary for pharmacy technicians to obtain the required education and training prior to the arrival of the coronavirus vaccine and the flu season, the Board has determined this emergency rule is necessary to prevent imminent peril to the public's health, safety, and welfare. This emergency rule shall become effective August 15, 2020 and shall remain in effect for 120 days unless rescinded or renewed.

#### **Title 46**

### **PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS**

#### **Part LIII. Pharmacists**

#### **Chapter 5. Pharmacists**

#### **§521. Administration of Medications**

A. Pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians who intend to administer medications to their patients shall obtain a Medication Administration Registration from the board prior to engaging in such activity. Pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians in possession of the Medication Administration Registration may only administer medications while under the supervision of a pharmacist in possession of a Medication Administration Registration.

#### **B. Medication Administration Registration**

##### **1. Eligibility**

a. The applicant shall possess a pharmacist license, intern registration, or pharmacy technician certificate issued by the board; and further, such credential shall be active and valid for practice.

b. The applicant shall demonstrate current life safety certification by the American Heart Association through its Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers course, or its successor, or by a board-approved equivalent.

c. The applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a certificate program for medication administration which has been approved by the board. The board may approve any program which is an evidence-based didactic course that meets current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) training guidelines, or other guidelines as designated by the board, and provides a minimum of 20 hours of instruction and experiential training in the following content areas:

- i. standards for medication administration practices;
- ii. basic immunology;

- iii. recommended medication administration schedules;
- iv. vaccine storage and management;
- v. informed consent;
- vi. physiology and techniques for medication administration;
- vii. pre- and post-administration assessment and counseling;
- viii. medication administration record management; and
- ix. management of adverse events, including identification and appropriate response, as well as documentation and reporting.

2. Application for Initial Issuance

- a. The applicant shall complete the application form supplied by the board and furnish the information requested.
- b. The applicant shall retain evidence of their education, training, and continuing competency; and further, shall furnish copies of such documentation upon request by the board.
- c. The board shall issue the registration with an expiration date matching the expiration date of the life safety certification card supplied with the application.

3. Renewal

- a. In the event the pharmacist license, intern registration, or technician certificate expires before the expiration date of the Medication Administration Registration, then the authority to administer medications shall terminate. The authority to administer medications requires the primary credential as well as the Medication Administration Registration to be active at the same time.

- b. The renewal of an expired Medication Administration Registration requires demonstration of a current life safety certification as described above.

- c. To maintain continuing competency for medication administration, the pharmacist or the pharmacy technician shall acquire at least one hour of continuing education per year related to this topic. Continuing education activities obtained for this purpose shall be acquired from a provider accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE); and further, the credit earned for such programs may be included within the total number of credits required to renew the pharmacist license or technician certificate.

C. Vaccines

1. The pharmacist shall maintain and furnish the following information to the practitioner within 24 hours of the administration:

- a. Name and address of the patient;
- b. Age of the patient, if under 14 years of age;
- c. Name of the patient's primary care physician as provided by the patient or patient's agent;
- d. Name, manufacturer, and lot number of the vaccine administered;
- e. Amount administered;
- f. Date of vaccine administration;
- g. Site of vaccine administration;
- h. Route of administration; and
- i. Name, address, and telephone number of the pharmacist administering the vaccine.

2. The immunizing pharmacist or his designee shall report the immunization to the state immunization registry within 72 hours of the administration of the immunization.

D. Pharmacies hosting medication administration activities, as well as pharmacists administering medications in a location other than a pharmacy, shall comply with the following minimum standards:

1. There shall be sufficient staffing available for the pharmacist to administer the medication and monitor the patient afterward without distraction from other responsibilities.

2. To facilitate emergency management of anaphylactic reactions, there shall be adequate supplies of medication and equipment, as well as pre-determined procedures for the arrangement of emergency medical services.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1182.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 29:2085 (October 2003), effective January 1, 2004, LR 34:1409 (July 2008), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Pharmacy, LR 46

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