

**Louisiana Administrative Code**

**Title 46 – Professional and Occupational Standards**

**Part LIII: Pharmacists**

**Chapter 5. Pharmacists**

**§521. Prescription Orders to Administer Medications**

- A. Purpose. The rules of this section describe the minimum requirements for the administration of medications to patients by Louisiana-licensed pharmacists.
- B. A licensed pharmacist may administer medication directly to a patient upon the prescription or order of a practitioner. Such a prescription or order shall be known as an “Authority to Administer.”
  - 1. An Authority to Administer is valid only for the pharmacist meeting the requirements herein and is not transferable.
  - 2. An Authority to Administer, once granted, is valid for a period of time not to exceed six months, unless revoked sooner by the practitioner granting the order.
- C. A properly executed Authority to Administer shall:
  - 1. identify the licensed practitioner’s name, office address, and telephone number;
  - 2. bear the patient’s name, address, gender, and date of birth;
  - 3. identify the medication, dose, and route of administration;
  - 4. identify the pharmacist authorized to administer the medication; and
  - 5. bear the date of the original order and the date of any authorized subsequent dose administrations.
- D. Requirements. Unless otherwise specifically authorized by the board, a pharmacist shall meet the following minimum standards to qualify for an Authority to Administer:
  - 1. obtain and maintain a license to practice pharmacy from the board;
  - 2. successfully complete a board-approved course of study from a board-approved provider that:
    - a. requires documentation by the pharmacist of current certification in the American Heart Association’s Basic Cardiac Life Support for Healthcare Providers, its successor, or board-approved equivalent;
    - b. 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 twenty 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; and
    - c. provides documentation of the successful completion of the course to the participant.
      - i. The pharmacist shall display the certificate of completion in the primary practice site.
      - ii. The pharmacist shall submit a copy of said certificate to the board office for placement in the pharmacist’s permanent file.

- 52 E. The pharmacist shall maintain continuing competency to accept an Authority to Administer, as  
53 evidenced by:
- 54 1. a current certification by the American Heart Association’s Basic Cardiac Life Support for  
55 Healthcare Providers, its successor, or board-approved equivalent; and
  - 56 2. successful completion of at least one hour of continuing education per year related to this area of  
57 practice.
- 58 F. Vaccines. The pharmacist shall maintain and furnish the following information to the practitioner  
59 within twenty-four hours of the administration:
- 60 1. name and address of the patient;
  - 61 2. age of the patient, if under fourteen years of age;
  - 62 3. name of the patient’s primary care physician as provided by the patient or patient’s agent;
  - 63 4. name, manufacturer, and lot number of the vaccine administered;
  - 64 5. amount administered;
  - 65 6. date of vaccine administration;
  - 66 7. site of vaccine administration;
  - 67 8. route of administration;
  - 68 9. name, address, and telephone number of the pharmacist administering the vaccine.
- 69 G. A pharmacist certified to administer medications may train a pharmacy intern to administer  
70 medication, provided the pharmacy intern meets the same educational requirements and minimum  
71 standards identified in Subsections D.2 and E of this Section. The intern shall be under the direct and  
72 immediate supervision of the certified pharmacist at all times during such training activities.
- 73 H. Pharmacies hosting immunization activities, as well as pharmacists administering immunizations in a  
74 location other than a pharmacy, shall comply with the following minimum standards:
- 75 1. There shall be sufficient staffing available for the pharmacist to administer the immunization and  
76 monitor the patient afterward without distraction from other responsibilities.
  - 77 2. To facilitate emergency management of anaphylactic reactions, there shall be adequate supplies of  
78 epinephrine and diphenhydramine injection, equipment for airway management, as well as pre-  
79 determined procedures for the arrangement of emergency medical services.
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81 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1182.

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