



**Louisiana Board of Pharmacy**  
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**BULLETIN No. 22-01**

To: All pharmacies, pharmacists, interns, technicians, and technician candidates  
From: Malcolm J Broussard, Executive Director  
Date: May 16, 2022  
Re: Status of Interim Policies from COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency

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During their May 11, 2022 meeting, the Board took note of the March 16, 2022 termination of the state declaration of emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic. They reviewed all of the interim policies issued pursuant to that declaration and then voted to terminate some policies and extend some policies.

- [PPM.I.D.2](#) ~ *Sterile Compounding Allowances* CDC was issued March 13, 2020. It permitted pharmacies compounding sterile preparations to vary from USP 797 standards when complying with CDC recommendations for managing shortages in personal protective equipment (PPE). The Board voted to terminate this interim policy effective May 31, 2022.
- [PPM.I.D.7](#) ~ *Hospital Pharmacies* was issued March 17, 2020. It permitted hospital pharmacies to (1) utilize additional storage space beyond the space declared for the pharmacy permit, (2) conserve PPE by centralizing sterile compounding activities, and (3) dispense limited quantities of prescription drugs to persons with no connection to the hospital. The Board voted to terminate this interim policy effective May 31, 2022, taking note the Board's rules already permit hospital pharmacies to dispense patient-specific compounded sterile preparations to patients in another hospital.
- [PPM.I.D.9](#) ~ *Remote Pharmacy Practice* was issued March 21, 2020. The policy authorized any pharmacy to allow any of its licensed pharmacy personnel to practice remotely, with the pharmacist still responsible for proper supervision of their personnel. The Board voted to terminate this interim policy effective May 31, 2022, taking note of the provisions for remote practice in Section 1145 of the Board's rules.
- [PPM.I.D.22](#) ~ *Recommendations for Therapeutic Marijuana* was issued April 14, 2020. The policy permitted marijuana pharmacies to accept marijuana recommendations via email directly from the physician issuing the recommendation in lieu of the facsimile or electronic methods specified in the rules for marijuana pharmacies. The Board voted to terminate this interim policy effective May 31, 2022.
- [PPM.I.D.24](#) ~ *Partial Waiver of Outpatient Dispensing Limitations for Hospital Pharmacies* was issued November 11, 2020. The policy allowed the Board to exercise enforcement discretion relative to the dispensing of certain COVID-19 related

therapeutics to certain outpatients by hospital pharmacies. The Board voted to terminate this interim policy effective May 31, 2022.

The Board took note of three of the interim policies which were based on the federal declaration of emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the federal declaration remains in effect, the Board voted to extend the expiration date of the following interim policies for the duration of the federal public health emergency (FPHE). HHS has indicated to state government agencies its intent to give notice at least 60 days prior to terminating the federal public health emergency.

- [PPM.I.D.16](#) ~ *Verbal Prescriptions for Schedule II Medications* was issued March 31, 2020. The policy was based on an allowance from the DEA relative to the amount of time within which a prescriber issuing a verbal prescription for a Schedule II medication must cause an original prescription to be delivered to the dispensing pharmacy. The Board voted to extend the expiration date of this policy for the duration of the federal public health emergency.
- [PPM.I.D.21](#) ~ *Limitations on Distribution of Controlled Substances* was issued April 14, 2020. The policy was based on a waiver from the DEA relative to their '5% rule' relative to the limitations on distributions of controlled substances by pharmacies. The Board voted to extend the expiration date of this policy for the duration of the federal public health emergency.
- [PPM.I.D.28](#) ~ *Guidance for Licensees re PREP Act Declaration by HHS* was issued February 24, 2021. This policy has been amended several times to incorporate the various amendments to the PREP Act Declaration issued by the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services (HHS). The Board voted to extend the expiration date of this interim policy for the duration of the federal public health emergency.

The Board reviewed the remaining four interim policies and determined it appropriate to amend its rules to incorporate certain provisions of the interim policies. To give the Board's Regulation Revision Committee time to complete their work, the Board voted to extend the expiration date of the following interim policies until the end of this calendar year.

- [PPM.I.D.12](#) ~ *Flexible Staffing Ratios* was issued March 25, 2020 and allows a pharmacist to supervise up to four licensed pharmacy personnel other than pharmacists. The Board voted to extend the expiration date of this interim policy until December 31, 2022.
- [PPM.I.D.14](#) ~ *Temporary Closure of Pharmacies* was issued March 28, 2020 and provides guidance to pharmacies with a need for temporary closure. The Board voted to extend the expiration date of this interim policy until December 31, 2022.
- [PPM.I.D.19](#) ~ *Live CE for Pharmacist License Renewal* was issued April 2, 2020. The board has waived the requirement for live CE for renewal of a pharmacist license for Calendar Years 2022 and 2023. The Board voted to extend the expiration date of this interim policy until December 31, 2022 to cover renewals for Calendar Year 2023.
- [PPM.I.D.29](#) ~ *Telehealth for CDTM Consultations* was issued August 18, 2021. Since the policy is incorporated into a regulatory proposal, the Board has extended the expiration date of this interim policy until December 31, 2022.