



**E-NEWS UPDATE
MARCH 2017 EDITION**

Updated Guidance for Opioid Analgesic Prescriptions

As a result of a number of inquiries from licensees, the Board has issued updated guidance related to upcoming changes to Ohio law regarding opioid analgesics. Some additional questions added to the guidance include:

Does the 14-day limit apply to selling an opioid analgesic to a patient (i.e. patient picking up the prescription)?

Pursuant to a Board resolution adopted on March 7, 2017, the Board has determined that a pharmacist or terminal distributor is permitted to sell an opioid analgesic if the prescription was presented to and dispensed by a pharmacist (i.e. prescription is associated with the patient and a final check is conducted) within 14-days of the date the prescription was issued.

Therefore, if a patient presents a prescription for an opioid analgesic and the pharmacist dispenses (i.e. fills) an opioid analgesic prescription within 14-days of the date the prescription is issued, the patient may pick up (i.e. purchase) the opioid analgesic even if the date of pick up exceeds 14 days from the date the prescription was issued.

Does the 14-limit apply to refills for schedule III-V opioid analgesics?

No. Pursuant to a Board resolution adopted on March 7, 2017, the Board has determined that the 14-day limit only applies to the filling of the initial opioid analgesic prescription (schedule II-V). The Board does not interpret the 14-day limit to apply to refills of schedule III-V opioid analgesics.

Does the 14-day limit for an opioid analgesic prescription impact the practice of issuing multiple concurrent prescriptions for schedule II opioid analgesics?

The law preserves the right to continue to issue multiple concurrent prescriptions for schedule II opioid analgesics. For more information see Question 7 of the guidance document.

The Board encourages all pharmacists to carefully review the updated guidance document, which can be accessed by visiting: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OpioidRequirements.

Immunization Guidance Updated

The Board updated its immunization guidance document (www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/immunize) to include the following question:

What basic life-support training courses certified by the American Red Cross or American Heart Association satisfy the requirements of the law?

The Board has determined that a pharmacist or intern may satisfy this training requirement by completing a certified course that either provides CPR & AED training for lay persons or a more advanced basic life-support training course for healthcare providers.

For the American Red Cross: This includes either [CPR/AED](#) (note First Aid is not required) or the more advanced [Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers \(BLS\)](#).

For the American Heart Association: This includes either [Heartsaver® CPR AED](#) or the more advanced [Basic Life Support \(BLS\) for Healthcare Providers](#).

As a reminder, pharmacists and interns are also required to maintain such certification in order to legally administer immunizations pursuant to the law.

Please note: A course that offers a blended learning model (offering in-person training and self-directed learning) meets the requirements of the law.

New Pick-Up Station Rule Removes Requirement for Document Submission

Effective February 19, 2017, rule 4729-5-10 of the Ohio Administrative Code, which permits entities (known as pick-up stations) to receive patient-specific prescription medication on behalf of the end user/patient, removes the requirement that a pharmacy or entity serving as a pick-up station submit notification to the Board of Pharmacy.

Please note: While the notification/form submission requirement has been removed, a licensee is still expected to meet the requirements of the rule. Please review the updated rule in full: <http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4729-5-10>.

For more information, please review the updated pick-up station guidance: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/pickup.