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**E-NEWS UPDATE  
NOVEMBER 2017 EDITION**

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### **Updates to OARRS**

On November 20, 2017, OARRS will have a new look and feel with an enhanced navigation experience. We are also introducing advanced analytics and reporting through NarxCare, a comprehensive tool that provides NarxScore (3-digit risk scores for the prescribing of narcotics, sedatives and stimulants, predictive risk Scores, red flags, an Rx graph and access to resources in a single, easy-to-use interface.

In addition to NarxCare, our goal with this update is to improve lookups and reduce the number of clicks. It is important to note that the overall design of the pages within the application will not change significantly, although you will notice a few additional improvements.

What it means for you, the user:

- The interface has been widened
- The navigation has been modernized into a single drop down
- Design is more visually appealing, with improved colorization and layout
- The inclusion of NarxCare

An updated user support manual that includes additional information about reading the NarxCare scores can be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/manual](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/manual).

**PLEASE NOTE:** NarxCare is currently available using the OARRS web interface. The Board is working with vendors to ensure NarxCare will be available through currently integrated systems (i.e. those that provide OARRS data within the clinical workflow) over the next few months.

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### **2018 Rules Review Committee Application Process Now Open**

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy's Rules Review Committee, composed of pharmacists from a diverse array of practice settings, is responsible for reviewing all rules prior to their legislatively mandated five-year review date. It also reviews and recommends changes proposed by the Board. The Committee is composed of twelve Ohio licensed pharmacists in good standing and typically meets three to four times per year in Columbus for half-day meetings.

To be considered for appointment to the committee, applications must be submitted by **January 8, 2018**. To view the application, visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/RR2018](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/RR2018).

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### **Technician Registration Update**

**English Language Proficiency:** For applicants who have a foreign school diploma equivalent to a U.S. high school diploma, there are now three ways to demonstrate English language proficiency.

1. Applicant can submit evidence of successful completion of the "Test of English as a Foreign Language, Internet-based test" ([TOEFL iBT](#)).
2. Individuals who have completed an associate's degree or higher from an accredited college, junior college, community college or university in the United States are not required to successfully complete the TOEFL iBT. Instead, applicants must submit a copy of a diploma or transcript in lieu of TOEFL scores.
3. For individuals currently practicing as pharmacy technicians (i.e. qualified technicians), submission of the "[English Proficiency Attestation Document](#)" signed by the Responsible Person at the pharmacy where the technician currently practices.

More information about this change, please review the application instructions on the technician licensing page: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/tech](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/tech).

**Registration vs. Registered:** Registration is a legal term similar licensure. While all technicians and trainees must register with the Board they must determine which registration category (certified technician, registered technician or technician trainee) fits best. To determine which type of registration you will need, please review Q1 and Q5 of the technician registration document: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/techFAQ](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/techFAQ).

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### **Compounding for Drug Shortages**

Due to reports of critical drug shortages, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has postponed the rescission of rules 4729-16-10 and 4729-16-07 of the Ohio Administrative Code to a date to be determined later. For more information on compounding for drug shortages, please visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/shortage](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/shortage).

**Please note:** While rules are indicated as "Rescinded" in LaWriter®, they are still effective. A copy of the rule text can be found by clicking on the rule link below:

- [4729-16-10 - In-state pharmacy compounding for drug shortages](#)
  - [4729-16-07 - Drugs compounded for human use at an in-state pharmacy for direct administration by a prescriber](#)
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### **Stay Up-to-Date on the Latest Changes**

To stay up-to-date on all the latest changes impacting the practice of pharmacy, sign up for e-mail updates by visiting: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/update](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/update).

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### **Immunization Resolutions**

The Board adopted the following resolutions regarding immunizations:

#### **Approval of Immunization Coursework**

**Approved 11/14/2017**

The Board hereby approves all immunization coursework that meets the requirements set forth in rule 4729-5-36 of the Ohio Administrative Code and waives the submission process set forth in paragraph (B) of the rule. However, the Board does reserve the right to revoke this approval status.

Any coursework requested for review by the Board must be submitted with ten days of the receipt of a written request. Failure to do so, will result in the immediate revocation the course's approval status.

#### **New Immunizations Recommended by ACIP**

**Approved 11/14/2017**

Pharmacists and pharmacy interns seeking to administer any new immunization recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that was not covered by their initial immunization certification shall, at a minimum, conduct a review of appropriate clinical resources to familiarize themselves with all the following prior to the administration of the immunization:

- (1) Disease states associated with the immunization;
- (2) Type or nature of activity of the immunization;
- (3) Appropriate administration schedules;
- (4) Appropriate routes of administration;
- (5) Appropriate injection sites;
- (6) Appropriate dosages;
- (7) Appropriate monitoring and treatment of the patient for adverse reactions;
- (8) Appropriate patient populations;
- (9) Precautions and contraindications; and
- (10) Proper storage requirements for the immunization.

Failure to adhere to the appropriate standard of care for administration of an immunization may result disciplinary action by the Board.

For more information, please review the updated immunization guidance by visiting: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/immunize](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/immunize).

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