



E-News Update September 2021

Ohio Law on the Sale of Dextromethorphan Products

Effective September 30, 2021, [HB 9](#) will prohibit retailers (including pharmacies) from selling, supplying, delivering, or giving a drug that contains dextromethorphan to a person under 18 years of age, unless the person has prescription for the product.

Under the new law, ORC [2925.62](#), retailers (or employee of retailers) are required to request proof of age and identity for all purchases of dextromethorphan products who appear to be under the age of 25. The law provides that a retailer or an employee of a retailer is not liable for civil damages arising from failing to prevent the sale of dextromethorphan to a person under 18, unless the failure constitutes willful or wanton misconduct. Violation of this law is considered a minor misdemeanor (ORC 2925.62 (E)) under the Ohio criminal code.

More information on the brand name products that contain dextromethorphan (including combination products) can be accessed here: <https://medlineplus.gov/druginfo/meds/a682492.html>

More information about this new law can be accessed here:

- [Full Text of Law \(Effective 9/30/21\)](#)
- [Final Analysis of the Law from the Legislative Service Commission](#)

ASHP's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Series: Transforming Awareness into Action

ASHP is offering a new educational series on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion- Transforming Awareness into Action. Choose from live CE-accredited webinars or access the entire series on-demand. Activities are accessible to all; ASHP membership is not required.

For more information, including how to register, [click here](#).

Updated Naloxone Resources for Pharmacists Available

The Board recently updated its naloxone resources for pharmacists (www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/naloxone). The site now includes patient counseling brochures in English, Spanish, Somali, Arabic, Nepali (coming soon), and Chinese. Copies of the patient counseling brochures in English are available free-of-charge from the Board by sending a request to contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov

Additionally, the Board's naloxone resources page includes an updated sample naloxone dispensing protocol for pharmacies, guidance document on dispensing naloxone without a prescription, and a list of Ohio pharmacies dispensing naloxone pursuant to protocol.

Reminder on Mandatory Naloxone Training for Pharmacy Staff

As a reminder, Board rules (OAC [4729:1-3-04](#)) require all pharmacies offering naloxone without a prescription to provide initial training to all new employees and annual training to existing employees on the availability of naloxone dispensing pursuant to a protocol. Employees requiring training include pharmacists, pharmacy interns, certified pharmacy technicians, registered pharmacy technicians, pharmacy technician trainees, and support personnel that have direct contact with the public.

HHS Expands Access to COVID-19 Therapeutics

To promote access to therapeutics to treat COVID-19, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) amended the [Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness \(PREP\) Act declaration](#) to provide liability protection to **licensed pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy interns**.

By expanding PREP Act coverage to include these trained professionals for the administration of covered COVID-19 therapeutics, HHS is providing a pathway for increased access to COVID 19 therapeutics, particularly in surge states with rising numbers of COVID-19 cases and in rural areas where access to inpatient and outpatient services may be more limited.

For more information on this change, the Board has developed a guidance document that can be accessed here: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/MAB

DEA to Hold National Prescription Drug Take Back on Saturday, October 23, 2021

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

More information on the day will be available after October 1, 2021, on the DEA's Take Back Day website: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

Licensee Scam Warning

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy recently learned that licensees are being targeted by a scam where the scammers claim to work for various governmental agencies (Board of Pharmacy, DEA, FBI, Department of Justice, etc.) to obtain money from the target.

The scam involves phone calls, emails, and letters purporting to originate from various state and federal agencies, as well as faxes, and include allegations of drug trafficking and threats of suspension against the target's license.

Please remember, Board of Pharmacy investigators will not ask for fine payment or personal/sensitive information over the phone and will never contact licensees via fax.

If the Board of Pharmacy is conducting an investigation and that individual faces action against their license, they will receive an official notice of opportunity for a hearing either via certified mail or by personal service.

If you are contacted by a scammer, please report this information using the Board's online complaint form: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/complaint. Additionally, reports should be made to your local law enforcement agency.

Please note that if you choose to unsubscribe from receiving emails, this unsubscribes you from all emails that are sent by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy, including renewal reminders. If you believe you have unsubscribed in error, please email contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov for assistance. If you would like to change the email address, please log into your [eLicense Ohio](#) account to update the email address on file.