Infection Control Procedures for Non-Pharmacy Licensees

Updated 4/23/2020

IMPORTANT: This guidance is for Ohio-based, non-pharmacy licensees (clinics, OTPs, OBOTs, wholesalers, etc.).

- For pharmacy specific guidance visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDsafe

Ohio Department of Health - Director’s Amended Stay at Home Order

On April 2, 2020, Ohio Department of Health Director, Dr. Amy Acton, issued an amended Stay at Home Order. A copy of the order may be reviewed here.

This order does implement additional requirements that essential non-pharmacy licensees are required to comply with in order to remain open. This document provides a general overview of those requirements.

Ohio licensees are reminded that failure to comply with the requirements set forth in the Director’s order may result in administrative discipline for the licensee and the licensee’s responsible person.

Required Per Ohio Department of Health Order

- Designate six-foot distances. Designate with signage, tape, or by other means six foot spacing for employees and customers in line (or who are in facility waiting areas) to maintain appropriate distance.
- Hand sanitizer and sanitizing products. Having hand sanitizer (if available) and sanitizing products readily available for employees and customers.
- Online and remote access. Posting online whether a facility is open and how best to reach the facility and continue services by phone or remotely.
- Business and employers are also required to take the following actions:
  - Allow as many people as possible to work from home by implementing policies in areas such as teleworking and video conferencing.
  - Actively encourage sick employees to stay home until they are free of fever (without the use of medication) for at least 72 hours (three full days) AND symptoms have improved for at least 72 hours AND at least seven days have passed since symptoms first began. Do not require a healthcare provider’s note to validate the illness or return to work of employees sick with acute respiratory illness; healthcare provider offices and medical facilities may be extremely busy and not able to provide such documentation in a timely way.
Ensure that your sick leave policies are up to date, flexible, and non-punitive to allow sick employees to stay home to care for themselves, children, or other family members. Consider encouraging employees to do a self-assessment each day to check if they have any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, or shortness of breath).

Separate employees who appear to have acute respiratory illness symptoms from other employees and send them home immediately. Restrict their access to the business until they have recovered.

Reinforce key messages – stay home when sick, use cough and sneeze etiquette, and practice hand hygiene – to all employees, and place posters in areas where they are most likely to be seen. Provide protection supplies such as soap and water, hand sanitizer, tissues, and no-touch disposal receptacles for use by employees.

Be prepared to change business practices if needed to maintain critical operations (e.g. identify alternative suppliers, prioritize customers, or temporarily suspend some of your operations).