



E-News Update

April 2018

Take the Time to Educate Yourself and Your Staff on Naloxone Dispensing

Naloxone is one of the most effective tools at reversing an opioid overdose. To expand access to this life-saving drug, laws were enacted to allow pharmacists and pharmacy interns to dispense this medication without a prescription to an at-risk opioid user or someone who can intervene in the event of an overdose (friend, family member or another bystander).

Unfortunately, the Board continues to receive reports of pharmacies that have either turned away customers, even though the pharmacy notified the Board that they offer this service, or are told a prescription is required to obtain the naloxone.

It is strongly recommended that a pharmacy that has submitted notification to the Board that they are dispensing naloxone pursuant to a physician protocol train all staff (**including pharmacy technicians and other staff that regularly interact with the public**) about availability of naloxone without a prescription.

If you are unsure of whether your pharmacy offers naloxone without a prescription, a full list of participating pharmacies can be accessed here:
www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/naloxonepharmacy.

Additionally, pharmacy staff are reminded that patient training should go beyond the provision of written materials and should include a comprehensive review of all the requirements stipulated in rule. Your responsibility for patient education is critical as it could help save a life. For more information on these requirements as well as training materials, please visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/naloxone.

Delayed Implementation of the Pharmacist and Intern Duty to Report Rules

Please be advised that the [pharmacist](#) and [pharmacy intern](#) duty to report rules that were originally scheduled to go into effect on May 1, 2018 have been delayed. The Board is delaying the implementation of the rule to gather additional feedback from the pharmacy community and to address outstanding concerns.

When the rules go into effect, notification will be provided via an E-News Update and will also be posted to the Board's rule changes website:
<http://pharmacy.ohio.gov/LawsRules/RuleChanges.aspx>.

As a reminder, you can sign up for automatic email updates by visiting:
www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/update.

Reminder: National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is April 28th

Saturday, April 28th is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, which aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications.

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy encourages you to inform your patients of this important opportunity to safely dispose of unused prescription drugs.

For collection site locations and informational materials (posters, handouts, etc.), please visit: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/.

The Board of Pharmacy has also published resources to help Ohio residents find drug disposal boxes throughout the year. To access the disposal box locators, please visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/disposal.

For more information about safe pain medication and pain management practices, please visit: www.takechargeohio.org.
