

COVID-19 Response Efforts - April 3, 2020

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy is committed to protecting the health and safety of Ohioans during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Board posted a document on its website that provides COVID-19 guidance and response efforts, including the issuance of waivers to assist licensees in addressing operational needs. This document will be updated regularly and can be accessed by visiting: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID. Please be advised that new and updated waivers were issued today (see below).

For more information on the state's efforts to address coronavirus, visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

Ohio Department of Health: COVID-19 Staffing Survey

Below is a link to a survey about COVID-19 staffing. The goal of this survey is to identify unaffiliated personnel (people not already being counted by hospitals) who could support potential hospital surge from COVID-19. Support may be needed for both clinical and behavioral healthcare. This is an unprecedented incident, and we may need the entirety of the State of Ohio, working together, to mount an effective response.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COVID-19_Surge

Please take a few minutes to complete the included survey. Available and interested personnel will be contacted by a representative from the State of Ohio to discuss next steps to ready you for deployment.

New and Updated COVID-19 Waivers Issued

- UPDATED: Authorized the use of temporary satellite locations for the storage and use of dangerous drugs during COVID-19. This guidance along with updated FAQs can be accessed here.
- **NEW:** Permits the temporary reinstatement of lapsed or expired Ohio pharmacist licenses in Ohio under certain conditions. This guidance can be accessed <u>here</u>.

DEA Guidance on Oral CII Prescriptions - New Resources Available

UPDATED 4/3/2020 - DEA has issued a flow chart to assist licensees in navigating the new guidance on oral CII prescriptions. This flow chart can be accessed here.

DEA is aware that during this pandemic there are obstacles to practitioners meeting with their existing patients and providing these patients with written prescriptions for schedule II controlled substances. As a result, practitioners and pharmacists have asked DEA to clarify the circumstances under which oral schedule II prescriptions are permitted. The DEA has provided the following guidance on this topic and announces temporary exceptions. This guidance has been posted to the Board's website and can be accessed here.

Please be advised that the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy, pursuant to a Board resolution adopted on March 2, 2020, hereby authorizes the exceptions in the <u>DEA Guidance</u> for the duration of the Public Health Emergency or unless modified/withdrawn by DEA.

For more information on the DEA's response to COVID-19, visit: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/coronavirus.html