



**STATE OF  
OHIO**  
BOARD OF PHARMACY

## Authorization for Registered Pharmacy Technicians and Pharmacy Technician Trainees to Stock Automated Pharmacy Systems and Automated Drug Storage Systems

**Updated 12/14/2020**

**REMINDER: Certified pharmacy technicians are permitted to stock automated drug storage systems in accordance to rule [4729:3-3-04](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code.**

To mitigate possible workforce shortages during the COVID-19 outbreak, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has adopted the following resolution to permit registered pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees to stock automated pharmacy systems and automated drug storage systems at a location licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs, subject to certain conditions.

As used in this resolution, an “automated drug storage system” means a mechanical system used for the secure storage of dangerous drugs used as floor stock or contingency drugs. An “automated pharmacy system” means a mechanical system that performs operations or activities other than administration, relative to storage, packaging, compounding, dispensing, or distribution of dangerous drugs that collects, controls, and maintains transaction information and records.

A registered pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee may stock an automated drug storage system or automated pharmacy system if **all** the following conditions are met:

1. The automated system utilizes a barcode scanning system at the fill station.
2. **For automated drug storage system only:** the system or the electronic health record used to administer drugs utilizes barcode medication administration (BCMA).
3. Registered pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees must complete documented training on stocking an automated drug storage system or automated pharmacy system.
4. The terminal distributor of dangerous drug must develop and implement a quality assurance program to track the accuracy of the technician restocking the automated systems, such as medication error reporting and resolving fill errors immediately.
5. A registered pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee may stock automated drug storage systems, at a location licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs if a pharmacist is not physically present at the licensed location and all the following apply:
  - i. A pharmacist is readily available to answer questions of the technician;

77 South High Street, 17th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215

T: (614) 466.4143 | F: (614) 752.4836 | [contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov](mailto:contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov) | [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov)



- ii. A pharmacist is responsible for conducting routine verifications of the activities of the technician to prevent the diversion of dangerous drugs;
- iii. A pharmacist is fully responsible for all activities conducted by the technician at the licensed location.

**This resolution is being issued in accordance with a Board resolution adopted on May 5, 2020 and shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Board.**

For questions regarding this resolution, please e-mail the Board office by visiting:  
<http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/contact.aspx>.