

"Pharmacist as Immunizers" - Transcript

00;00;03;26 - 00;00;33;07

Narrator: Pharmacists were allowed to become immunizers in Texas as a result of Senate Bill 786, which went into effect on September 1st, 1997, and which gave authority to pharmacists to administer immunizations and vaccinations. On January 20th, 1998, the Task Force on Immunizations met to develop a set of rule recommendations for the Board regarding pharmacists as immunizers. These rules were adopted during the August 1998 Board meeting and became rule 295.15.

00;00;33;08 - 00;01;05;08

Narrator: If you're interested in becoming a certified immunizer, here's what you need. You'll need to complete an approved ACPE course that requires you to be CPR certified, includes study material and hands on training, requires testing with a passing score, and meets current CDC training guidelines. This course must provide at least 20 hours of credit and cover topics outlined in section 295.15 of the Texas Pharmacy Rulebook.

00;01;05;10 - 00;01;12;04

Narrator: Here are some topics that should be covered.

[Text graphic reads: "standards for immunization practices, basic immunology and vaccine protection, vaccine-preventable diseases, recommended immunization schedules, vaccine storage and management, informed consent, physiology and techniques for administration, pre- and post-vaccine assessment, adverse events training"]

00;01;12;07 - 00;01;41;27

Narrator: Pharmacist immunizers should also keep accurate record of their immunization certification. If you're an immunizer, you must maintain documentation of: your initial course completion; proof of current CPR certification; and, at least three hours of continuing education every two years. These continuing education hours should cover topics that allow you to maintain competency in the disease states, drugs, and administration of immunizations or vaccinations.

00;01;42;00 - 00;02;11;10

Narrator: Pharmacists may only administer immunizations or vaccinations pursuant to a written protocol from a physician authorizing the administration. Pharmacists may administer immunizations or vaccinations to a patient under 14 years of age only upon a referral from a physician who has an established physician patient relationship with each patient. However, a pharmacist may administer an influenza vaccination to a patient over seven years of age without an established physician patient relationship.

00;02;11;13 - 00;02;45;11

Narrator: Pharmacists may administer immunizations or vaccinations under written protocol of a physician, within a pharmacy, or at any other locations specifically identified in the written protocol. Such other location may not include where the patient resides, except for a licensed nursing home or hospital. The authority of a pharmacist to administer immunizations or vaccinations may not be delegated. For more detailed information about immunizer rules and regulations, you can view the entire rule 295 .15 on our website.

00;02;45;13 - 00;02;53;19

Narrator: A link is included in the description box below. For resources about immunizer training, additional links have been provided in the description box as well.