

Administration of Immunizations or Vaccinations by a Pharmacist under Written Protocol of Physician

Governor Greg Abbott has [declared a state of disaster](#) in Texas due to COVID-19 (coronavirus).

The laws and rules governing the practice of pharmacy in Texas require pharmacies and pharmacists to comply with certain requirements related to the administration of immunizations or vaccinations by a pharmacist under written protocol of a physician. Specifically, board rule [295.15\(c\)\(2\)\(C\)](#) requires a pharmacist to maintain documentation of current certification in the American Heart Association's Basic Cardiac Life Support for Health-Care Providers or its equivalent.

The Texas State Board of Pharmacy has determined that strict compliance with these laws could prevent, hinder, or delay the delivery of pharmaceutical services in relation to efforts to cope with the declared disaster.

Accordingly, the Office of the Governor has temporarily suspended the requirement in board rule 295.15(c)(2)(C) to maintain documentation of current certification in American Heart Association's Basic Cardiac Life Support for Health-Care Providers or its equivalent in order to provide immunization or vaccination under written protocol of a physician. This suspension is in effect until terminated by the Office of the Governor or until the March 13, 2020, disaster declaration is lifted or expires.

§295.15 Administration of Immunizations or Vaccinations by a Pharmacist under Written Protocol of Physician

(c) Pharmacist certification requirements. Pharmacist who enter into a written protocol with a physician to administer immunizations or vaccinations shall:

(1) complete a course provided by an ACPE approved provider which:

(A) requires documentation by the pharmacist of current certification in the American Heart Association's Basic Cardiac Life Support for Health-Care Providers or its equivalent;

(B) is an evidence-based course which:

(i) includes study material;

(ii) includes hands-on training in techniques for administering immunizations or vaccines; and

(iii) requires testing with a passing score; and

(C) meets current Center for Disease Control training guidelines and provides a minimum of 20 hours of instruction and experiential training in the following content areas:

(i) standards for pediatric, adolescent, and adult immunization practices;

(ii) basic immunology and vaccine protection;

(iii) vaccine-preventable diseases;

(iv) recommended immunization schedules (pediatric/adolescent/adult);

(v) vaccine storage and management;

(vi) informed consent;

(vii) physiology and techniques for vaccine administration;

(viii) pre and post-vaccine assessment and counseling;

(ix) immunization record management; and

(x) adverse events:

(I) identification and appropriate response; and

(II) documentation and reporting; and

(2) maintain documentation of:

(A) completion of the initial course specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection;

(B) 3 hours of continuing education every 2 years which are designed to maintain competency in the disease states, drugs, and administration of immunizations or vaccinations; and

~~(C) current certification in the American Heart Association's Basic Cardiac Life Support for Health-Care Providers or its equivalent.~~