



Ohio Administrative Code

Rule 4729:1-3-03 Administration of dangerous drugs by injection.

Effective: January 7, 2026

(A) A pharmacist licensed under Chapter 4729. of the Revised Code may administer by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection any of the following drugs as long as the drug that is to be administered has been prescribed by a physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner and the individual to whom the drug was prescribed has an ongoing physician-patient or nurse-patient relationship with the physician or nurse:

- (1) An addiction treatment drug administered in a long-acting or extended-release form, which may include any medication indicated for relapse prevention;
- (2) An antipsychotic drug administered in a long-acting or extended-release form;
- (3) A human immunodeficiency virus treatment or prevention drug administered in a long-acting or extended-release form;
- (4) Hydroxyprogesterone caproate for pregnant women;
- (5) Medroxyprogesterone acetate for non-pregnant women;
- (6) Cobalamin, to include: cyanocobalamin, hydroxocobalamin or any other vitamin B12 injection approved by the United States food and drug administration;
- (7) Antibiotics;
- (8) Denosumab or romosozumab;
- (9) Methotrexate for non-emergent conditions;
- (10) Heparin, low molecular weight heparin, and factor Xa inhibitors; and



(11) Any other dangerous drugs authorized for pharmacist administration pursuant to section 4729.45 of the Revised Code.

(B) To be authorized to administer drugs pursuant to this rule, a pharmacist shall comply with all the following:

(1) Successfully complete a course in the administration of drugs that satisfies the requirements pursuant to paragraph (L) of this rule.

(2) Receive and maintain certification to perform basic life-support procedures by successfully completing a basic life-support training course certified by the American red cross, American heart association, American safety and health institute, or other training course approved by the board. Certification shall be obtained and maintained through courses that are conducted in-person or, at a minimum, offer an in-person training component.

(3) Practice in accordance with a protocol that meets the requirements of paragraphs (F) and (G) of this rule.

(C) Each time a pharmacist administers a drug pursuant to this rule, the pharmacist shall comply with all the following:

(1) For each drug administered by a pharmacist to an individual who is eighteen years of age or older, the pharmacist shall obtain written permission from the individual.

(2) For each drug administered by a pharmacist to an individual who is under eighteen years of age, the pharmacist shall obtain written permission from the individual's parent or other person having care or charge of the individual.

(3) For each drug administered by a pharmacist to an individual who lacks the capacity to make informed health care decisions, the pharmacist shall obtain written permission from the person authorized to make such decisions on the individual's behalf.



(4) Permission obtained in accordance with this paragraph shall also include notification of the patient's right to request a private area or chaperone in accordance with paragraph (J) of this rule.

(5) In the case of an addiction treatment drug described in paragraph (A)(1) of this rule, obtain, in accordance with paragraph (D) of this rule, test results indicating that it is appropriate to administer the drug to the individual if either of the following is to be administered:

- (a) The initial dose of the drug;
- (b) Any subsequent dose, if the administration occurs more than thirty days after the previous dose of the drug was administered.

(6) Observe the individual to whom the drug is administered to determine whether the individual has an adverse reaction to the drug.

(7) Notify the physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner who prescribed the drug within seven days that the drug has been administered to the individual. Notification shall be conducted using one of the following methods that is capable of confirming delivery of the required notification:

- (a) Electronic mail;
- (b) Interoperable electronic medical records system;
- (c) Facsimile;
- (d) Electronic prescribing system;
- (e) Electronic pharmacy record system;
- (f) Documented verbal communication; or
- (g) Any other method of notification that might reasonably be expected to allow for the confirmed



transmission of the required notification.

(D) A pharmacist may obtain the test results described in paragraph (C)(5) of this rule:

- (1) From the prescribing physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner;
- (2) From an agent of the prescribing physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner; or
- (3) By ordering blood and urine tests for the individual to whom the addiction treatment drug is to be administered.

(E) If a pharmacist orders blood and urine tests pursuant to paragraph (D) of this rule, the pharmacist shall evaluate the results of the tests to determine whether they indicate that it is appropriate to administer the addiction treatment drug. A pharmacist's authority to evaluate test results pursuant to this rule does not authorize the pharmacist to make a diagnosis.

(F) A protocol for the administration of dangerous drugs in accordance with section 4729.45 of the Revised Code shall include the following:

(1) For the dangerous drugs listed in paragraph (A) of this rule:

- (a) Name and strength;
- (b) Precautions and contraindications;
- (c) Intended audience or patient population;
- (d) Dosage;
- (e) Administration schedules;



- (f) Routes of administration;
- (g) Injection sites;
- (h) The type of tests that may be ordered in accordance with paragraph (E) of this rule;
- (i) Any special handling instructions or precautions, if applicable.

(2) The length of time the pharmacist must observe an individual for adverse effects, which shall be based on standards of care established by the authorizing physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner. The location of the observation shall be in the general vicinity of the administering pharmacist to allow for on-going evaluation.

(3) A method to address emergency situations including, but not limited to, adverse reactions, anaphylactic reactions, and accidental needle sticks.

(4) The locations that a pharmacist shall engage in the administration of dangerous drugs in accordance with paragraph (J) of this rule.

(5) Specify procedures to be followed by a pharmacist when administering epinephrine, diphenhydramine, or both, to an individual who has an adverse reaction to a drug administered by the pharmacist.

(G) All protocols pursuant to this rule and section 4729.45 of the Revised Code shall comply with the following:

- (1) The protocol shall be signed and dated by the authorizing physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner prior to implementation and shall be readily available to the administering pharmacist. The protocol shall be renewed by the physician on a biennial basis.
- (2) A physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner may sign one protocol for multiple locations licensed as terminal distributors of dangerous drugs.



- (3) Each location licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs shall maintain a copy of the protocol on-site for immediate inspection by an agent, inspector, or employee of the state board of pharmacy.
- (4) The protocol must be established by a physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner who has a scope of practice that includes treatment of the condition for which the individual has been prescribed the drug to be administered.
- (H) Upon the request of the state board of pharmacy, a pharmacist or terminal distributor of dangerous drugs shall immediately provide the protocols for administration of drugs in accordance with this rule. The state board of pharmacy, after review, may approve the protocol or return it to the pharmacist or terminal distributor for revision without approval. If a protocol has been returned for revision without approval, it may not be implemented until the board has granted approval.
- (I) A pharmacist may administer epinephrine or diphenhydramine, or both, to an individual in an emergency situation resulting from an adverse reaction to a drug administered by the pharmacist.
- (J) Dangerous drugs administered in accordance with this rule shall be administered in a location that ensures the privacy and dignity of the patient and is consistent with state and federal privacy laws and regulations. When necessary to protect patient privacy, or if requested by the patient, this shall include a private area located outside of the pharmacy.

For all dangerous drugs requiring administration in the gluteal muscle or any other administration requiring the removal of clothing, the administering pharmacist shall:

- (1) Offer a chaperone to patients and/or provide a chaperone upon the patient's request;
- (2) Employ disrobing, draping, and positioning practices that protect a patient's privacy and dignity; and
- (3) Administer in a private area and minimize patient exposure by only exposing the specific injection site.



(K) Administration records shall be maintained in accordance with rule 4729:5-5-04 of the Administrative Code.

(L) A course in the administration of dangerous drugs developed pursuant to section 4729.45 of the Revised Code shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The course shall be conducted by an accreditation council for pharmacy education (ACPE) accredited provider.

(2) The course must include the following components:

(a) A minimum of five hours (0.5 C.E.U.s) of live or home study coursework for the dangerous drugs listed in paragraph (A) of this rule that is covered by the course and shall include:

(i) A review of the conditions treated or prevented;

(ii) Mechanisms of action;

(iii) Routes of administration;

(iv) Injection sites and ensuring patient privacy;

(v) Dosages and administration schedules;

(vi) Monitoring and treatment of the patient for adverse reactions, including the use of diphenhydramine and epinephrine;

(vii) Patient populations;

(viii) Precautions and contraindications; and

(ix) Proper storage requirements.



- (b) A minimum of thirty minutes (0.05 C.E.U.s) of live or home study coursework that includes:
 - (i) A review of sterile technique in injectable dosage preparation and administration;
 - (ii) A review of the proper disposal procedures for contaminated needles and dangerous drugs; and
 - (iii) A review of the proper procedures for accidental needle sticks.
- (c) A minimum of one hour (0.1 C.E.U.s) of live and supervised physical participation in subcutaneous and intramuscular administration techniques.

(3) The course must provide a method to evaluate the successful comprehension of the content.

(4) The course must provide a method to demonstrate the pharmacist has successfully completed the course.

(5) All live coursework shall be taught by an instructor that is a licensed health care professional who has the appropriate education and experience to teach a course in the administration of the dangerous drugs included in the categories listed in paragraph (A) of this rule.

(M) Courses may be reviewed by the state board of pharmacy. A training course that fails to comply with the requirements set forth in this rule shall be considered in violation of this rule.

(N) A pharmacist who has not successfully completed a course in drug administration that meets the requirements set forth in this rule must complete a course that meets the requirements specified in this rule prior to the administration of a dangerous drug listed in paragraph (A) of this rule.

(O) A pharmacist shall maintain the following records on file at the location(s) where the pharmacist administers dangerous drugs in accordance with this rule:

- (1) Proof of successful completion of a training course specified in paragraph (L) of this rule; and



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(2) Proof of maintenance of certification to perform basic life-support procedures in accordance with paragraph (B)(2) of this rule.

(P) A pharmacist shall not intravenously administer any drug listed in paragraph (A) of this rule.

(Q) Failure to adhere to the standard of care for the administration of a dangerous drug listed in paragraph (A) of this rule shall be considered a violation of this rule and may subject a pharmacist to discipline in accordance with rule 4729:1-4-01 of the Administrative Code.

(R) A pharmacist who completed a course in the administration of drugs that complied with the training requirements in effect immediately prior to the adoption of this rule shall be deemed to have met the training required by section 4729.45 of the Revised Code.