



Ohio Revised Code

Section 4729.41 Authority to administer immunizations.

Effective: March 20, 2025

Legislation: Senate Bill 196 - 135th General Assembly

(A)(1) A pharmacist licensed under this chapter who meets the requirements of division (B) of this section, a pharmacy intern licensed under this chapter who meets the requirements of division (B) of this section and is working under the direct supervision of a pharmacist who meets the requirements of that division, and a certified pharmacy technician or a registered pharmacy technician who meets the requirements of division (B) of this section and is working under the direct supervision of a pharmacist who meets the requirements of that division, may administer to an individual who is five years of age or older an immunization for any disease, including an immunization for influenza or COVID-19.

(2) As part of engaging in the administration of immunizations or supervising a pharmacy intern's, certified pharmacy technician's, or registered pharmacy technician's administration of immunizations, a pharmacist may administer epinephrine or diphenhydramine, or both, to individuals in emergency situations resulting from adverse reactions to the immunizations administered by the pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician.

(B) For a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician to be authorized to engage in the administration of immunizations, the pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician shall do all of the following:

(1) Successfully complete a course in the administration of immunizations that meets the requirements established in rules adopted under this section for such courses;

(2) Receive and maintain certification to perform basic life-support procedures by successfully completing a basic life-support training course that is certified by the American red cross or American heart association or approved by the state board of pharmacy;



(3) Practice in accordance with a protocol that meets the requirements of division (C) of this section.

(C) All of the following apply with respect to the protocol required by division (B)(3) of this section:

(1) The protocol shall be established by a physician authorized under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery or a certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner licensed under Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code.

(2) The protocol shall specify a definitive set of treatment guidelines and the locations at which a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician may engage in the administration of immunizations.

(3) The protocol shall satisfy the requirements established in rules adopted under this section for protocols.

(4) The protocol shall include provisions for implementation of the following requirements:

(a) The pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician who administers an immunization shall observe the individual who receives the immunization to determine whether the individual has an adverse reaction to the immunization. The length of time and location of the observation shall comply with the rules adopted under this section establishing requirements for protocols. The protocol shall specify procedures to be followed by a pharmacist when administering epinephrine or diphenhydramine, or both, to an individual who has an adverse reaction to an immunization administered by the pharmacist or by a pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician.

(b) For each immunization administered to an individual by a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician, other than an immunization for influenza administered to an individual eighteen years of age or older, the pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician shall notify the individual's primary care provider or, if the individual has no primary care provider, the board of health of the health district in which the individual resides or the authority having the duties of a board of health for that



district under section 3709.05 of the Revised Code. The notice shall be given not later than thirty days after the immunization is administered.

(c) For each immunization administered by a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician to an individual younger than eighteen years of age, the pharmacist, a pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician shall obtain permission from the individual's parent or legal guardian in accordance with the procedures specified in rules adopted under this section.

(d) For each immunization administered by a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician to an individual who is younger than eighteen years of age, the pharmacist, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician shall inform the individual's parent or legal guardian of the importance of well child visits with a pediatrician or other primary care provider and shall refer patients when appropriate.

(D)(1) No pharmacist shall do either of the following:

(a) Engage in the administration of immunizations unless the requirements of division (B) of this section have been met;

(b) Delegate to any person the pharmacist's authority to engage in or supervise the administration of immunizations.

(2) No pharmacy intern shall engage in the administration of immunizations unless the requirements of division (B) of this section have been met.

(3) No certified pharmacy technician or registered pharmacy technician shall engage in the administration of immunizations unless the requirements of division (B) of this section have been met.

(E)(1) The state board of pharmacy shall adopt rules to implement this section. The rules shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and shall include the following:



- (a) Requirements for courses in administration of immunizations, including requirements that are consistent with any standards established for such courses by the centers for disease control and prevention;
 - (b) Requirements for protocols to be followed by pharmacists, pharmacy interns, certified pharmacy technicians, and registered pharmacy technicians in engaging in the administration of immunizations;
 - (c) Procedures to be followed by pharmacists, pharmacy interns, certified pharmacy technicians, and registered pharmacy technicians in obtaining from the individual's parent or legal guardian permission to administer immunizations to an individual younger than eighteen years of age.
- (2) Prior to adopting rules regarding requirements for protocols to be followed by pharmacists, pharmacy interns, certified pharmacy technicians, and registered pharmacy technicians in engaging in the administration of immunizations, the state board of pharmacy shall consult with the state medical board and the board of nursing.