



Ohio Revised Code

Section 4729.41 Authority to administer immunizations.

Effective: April 8, 2019

Legislation: House Bill 101, House Bill 541 - 132nd General Assembly

(A)(1) A pharmacist licensed under this chapter who meets the requirements of division (B) of this section, and 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, may do any of the following:

(a) Administer immunizations for influenza to individuals who are seven years of age or older;

(b) Only pursuant to a prescription, administer to individuals who are seven years of age or older but not more than thirteen years of age any of the immunizations included in division (A)(2) of this section;

(c) Administer to individuals who are thirteen years of age or older any of the immunizations included in division (A)(2) of this section.

(2) A pharmacist or pharmacy intern may administer in accordance with divisions (A)(1)(b) and (c) of this section either of the following:

(a) Any immunization that on March 19, 2015, is included in either of the following immunization schedules recommended by the advisory committee on immunization practices of the centers for disease control and prevention in the United States department of health and human services:

(i) The recommended immunization schedule for persons aged zero through eighteen years;

(ii) The recommended adult immunization schedule.

(b) Any other immunization specified in rules adopted under division (E)(1)(d) of this section.

(3) As part of engaging in the administration of immunizations or supervising a pharmacy intern'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 or pharmacy intern.

(B) For a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to be authorized to engage in the administration of immunizations pursuant to division (A) of this section, the pharmacist or pharmacy intern 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.
- (2) The protocol shall specify a definitive set of treatment guidelines and the locations at which a pharmacist or pharmacy intern 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 or pharmacy intern 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, diphenhydramine, or both, to an individual who has an adverse reaction to an immunization administered by the pharmacist or a pharmacy intern.

(b) For each immunization administered to an individual by a pharmacist or pharmacy intern, other than an immunization for influenza administered to an individual eighteen years of age or older, the pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall notify the individual's family physician or, if the individual has no family physician, 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 or pharmacy intern to an individual younger than eighteen years of age pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section, the pharmacist or a pharmacy intern shall obtain permission from the individual's parent or legal guardian in accordance with the procedures specified in rules adopted under this section.

(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.

(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 and pharmacy interns in engaging in the administration of immunizations;

(c) Procedures to be followed by pharmacists and pharmacy interns in obtaining from the individual's parent or legal guardian permission to administer immunizations to an individual younger than eighteen years of age pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section;

(d) Provisions specifying any immunizations that may be administered under division (A)(2)(b) of this section.

(2) Prior to adopting rules regarding requirements for protocols to be followed by pharmacists and pharmacy interns in engaging in the administration of immunizations, the state board of pharmacy shall consult with the state medical board and the board of nursing.

(3) Prior to adopting rules specifying any immunizations that may be administered under division (A)(2)(b) of this section, the state board of pharmacy shall consult with the state medical board.

(F) In addition to the rules it adopts under division (E) of this section, the state board of pharmacy may adopt rules that change the immunizations authorized by division (A)(2)(a) of this section to reflect changes in the recommendations of the advisory committee on immunization practices. The rules shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

The Legislative Service Commission presents the text of this section as a composite of the section as amended by multiple acts of the General Assembly. This presentation recognizes the principle stated in R.C. 1.52(B) that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation.