
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2915 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY SAPPEY, SHUSTERMAN, MADDEN, DRISCOLL, WILLIAMS,
HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, HOHENSTEIN, MURT, HANBIDGE, GALLOWAY,
DAVIDSON, FIEDLER, DALEY, DONATUCCI, SCHLOSSBERG, DELLOSO,
SAMUELSON, DeLUCA, WEBSTER, GREEN AND CIRESI, OCTOBER 8, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, OCTOBER 8, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of September 27, 1961 (P.L.1700, No.699),
2 entitled "An act relating to the regulation of the practice
3 of pharmacy, including the sales, use and distribution of
4 drugs and devices at retail; and amending, revising,
5 consolidating and repealing certain laws relating thereto,"
6 further providing for authority to administer injectable
7 medications, biologicals and immunizations.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 9.2 of the act of September 27, 1961
11 (P.L.1700, No.699), known as the Pharmacy Act, is amended to
12 read:

13 Section 9.2. Authority to Administer Injectable Medications,
14 Biologicals and Immunizations.--(a) The board shall by
15 regulation establish education and training standards and
16 practice guidelines pursuant to which pharmacists shall be
17 authorized to administer injectable medications, biologicals and
18 immunizations to persons who are more than eighteen years of age
19 and influenza immunizations and COVID-19 immunizations by

1 injectable or needle-free delivery methods to persons nine years
2 of age and older. Such standards and guidelines shall include,
3 but not be limited to, the following:

4 (1) Satisfactory completion of an academic and practical
5 curriculum approved by the board that includes the current
6 guidelines and recommendations of the Centers for Disease
7 Control and Prevention in the Public Health Service of the
8 United States Department of Health and Human Services, the
9 American Council on Pharmaceutical Education or a similar health
10 authority or professional body and includes, but is not limited
11 to, disease epidemiology, vaccine characteristics, injection
12 technique, emergency response to adverse events and related
13 topics.

14 (2) Maintenance of a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation
15 (CPR) certificate acceptable to the board.

16 (3) That the administration of injectable medications,
17 biologicals and immunizations be in accordance with a definitive
18 set of treatment guidelines established by a physician and the
19 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Advisory Committee
20 on Immunization Practices guidelines or another competent
21 authority approved by the board.

22 (4) That a minimum of two hours of the thirty-hour
23 requirement for continuing education for license renewal be
24 dedicated to this area of practice.

25 (5) For individuals under eighteen years of age, that
26 parental consent be obtained prior to administration.
27 Administration of influenza immunizations and COVID-19
28 immunizations by injectable or needle-free delivery methods
29 shall be in accordance with the immunization schedule
30 established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

1 (6) Maintenance of a level of professional liability
2 insurance coverage in the minimum amount of one million dollars
3 (\$1,000,000) per occurrence or claims made. Failure to maintain
4 insurance coverage as required shall subject the licensees to
5 disciplinary proceedings. The board shall accept as satisfactory
6 evidence of insurance coverage any of the following:

7 (i) personally purchased liability insurance;

8 (ii) professional liability insurance coverage provided by
9 the individual licensee's employer; or

10 (iii) similar insurance coverage acceptable to the board.

11 (7) Notification of the individual's primary care provider,
12 if known, within forty-eight hours of administration.

13 (8) A COVID-19 immunization administered by a pharmacist
14 must be documented by the pharmacist in the patient's medical
15 record or reported by the pharmacist to a medical practitioner
16 responsible for the patient's care.

17 (9) COVID-19 immunizations made available to customers by
18 pharmacists in accordance with the provisions of this section
19 shall, to the extent practicable, be administered in accordance
20 with the ethical allocation framework for COVID-19 vaccines
21 established by the Department of Health or, in the absence of
22 the framework, in accordance with guidance issued by the Centers
23 for Disease Control and Prevention concerned with an ethical
24 framework for emerging treatment of COVID-19.

25 (b) A pharmacist's authority to administer injectable
26 medications, biologicals and immunizations shall not be
27 delegated to any other person. A pharmacy intern who has
28 completed a course of education and training which meets the
29 requirements of subsection (a)(1) and (2) may administer
30 injectable medications, biologicals and immunizations to persons

1 who are more than eighteen years of age and influenza
2 immunizations and COVID-19 immunizations by injectable or
3 needle-free delivery methods to persons nine years of age and
4 older only under the direct, immediate and personal supervision
5 of a pharmacist holding the authority to administer injectable
6 medications, biologicals and immunizations.

7 (c) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
8 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

9 "Coronavirus" means Severe Acute Respiratory Coronavirus 2
10 (SARS-CoV-2), commonly referred to as COVID-19, or the
11 coronavirus that is a newly identified respiratory illness
12 initially identified in humans in December 2019.

13 "COVID-19" means the novel coronavirus as identified in the
14 proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on
15 March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and
16 any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.