

## Authorization to Administer Injectable Medications, Biologicals and Immunizations

Pharmacists who wish to obtain or who currently hold the authorization to administer injectable medications, biologicals and immunizations must hold a current basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification issued by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or a similar health authority or professional body approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy. Please visit the board's [Web site](#) at for a complete list of [approved CPR programs](#).

Board Regulation Section 27.407 details the education requirements needed to apply for the authority to administer injectable medications, biologicals and immunizations. **The course must have been completed within the two years prior to applying for the authority to administer injectable medications. The two-year window for taking the course runs from the date of the application.** The date the application is received in the board office is considered the date of application. Applications without acceptable CPR certification attached will be rejected without processing and will not preserve the date of application.

The Board of Pharmacy finds the American Pharmacists Association's "Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery" national certificate program and other courses based on this course to be substantially compliant with the board's intention in promulgating the regulation pertaining to education requirements.

To confirm that a particular organization's program is acceptable, you may contact the board office to determine if that program has been reviewed for acceptability. Pharmacists with the authority to administer injectable medications, biologicals and immunizations should be reminded that they should only engage in the activities for which they have been trained.

Pharmacists may administer injectable medications under an order issued by a licensed prescriber or by entering into a written protocol. The requirements for an order and written protocol are detailed in the regulations. Minimum recordkeeping and notification requirements are also detailed in the regulations.

This is just a summary of the regulations. Please consult the regulations for specific provisions pertaining to the practice of pharmacy ([Pennsylvania Code](#) Chapter 27).

### LINKS OF INTEREST

[Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act](#)

[Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Regulations](#)

[Generic Drug Substitution/Equivalency Laws](#)

[Narrow Therapeutic Index Info](#)

[Controlled Substances Information - the DEA Pharmacist's Manual](#)

## NAPB Educates Public on Buying from Internet Pharmacies

Last year, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) launched the Internet Pharmacies section of its [Web site](#), empowering patients to make informed choices and educating them on the potential dangers of buying medicine online.

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### Other News:

- [Disciplinary Actions](#)
- [PA Becomes Smoke-Free](#)

As of Feb. 27, the site listed 1,753 Internet drug outlets that appear to be out of compliance with state and federal laws or NABP patient safety and pharmacy practice standards, thereby putting those who purchase from these sites in danger of obtaining drugs that could cause patients serious harm or even death.

NABP developed these standards for its new Internet Drug Outlet Identification program with input from several industry, professional, regulatory and consumer groups, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Internet drug outlets that appear to be out of compliance with these criteria are listed on the NABP Web site as *Not Recommended*. NABP recommends that patients buying medicine online use only Internet pharmacies accredited through the VIPPS (Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Sites) program. NABP has verified that these pharmacies are appropriately licensed and have successfully completed the well-recognized and rigorous VIPPS criteria evaluation and on-site inspection. These pharmacy sites, representing more than 12,000 pharmacies, are listed on the NABP Web site as *Recommended*.

These lists, along with program criteria and related patient information, are accessible in the Internet Pharmacies section of the NABP Web site.

The new program is an outgrowth of a 2007 NABP resolution, "Internet Pharmacy Public Safety Awareness," in which the association pledges to continue collaborating with federal agencies and other interested stakeholders to educate the public and health care professionals of the dangers of acquiring drugs illegally through the Internet and from foreign sources.

As part of this initiative, NABP will provide information to assist state and federal regulators in their efforts to shut down rogue Internet drug outlets.

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## The Right-to-Know Act and Home Addresses

The Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs is sensitive to its licensees' concerns about personal privacy. However, the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Act mandates release of information contained in a "public record" stored by that agency if a member of the public requests it.

The bureau will take all reasonable steps to safeguard personal information contained in your licensure records. We realize that many of you use home addresses on the licensure records maintained by the bureau. However, given the uncertainty over what the Right-to-Know Act requires, neither the bureau nor the board that issues your license can guarantee the confidentiality of the address shown on your licensing record. Therefore, if you have a personal security concern, we recommend that you consider what many of our licensees have already done: use a business address or post office box number as the official address on licensure records.

Also, with the License 2000 computer system, you may indicate to the board an address for release to the public that may be different from your home address.

To further protect your privacy and identity, the bureau will only accept a request to change a licensee's address if it is submitted in writing and includes the licensee's Social Security number, license number and the old and new addresses.

### Governor's Newsletter

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