

November 2021

Pharmacist Prescribing Authority for Immunizations

Now with the enacting legislation and the Board's rules, the Board's current protocol states that authorized pharmacists may independently order and administer immunizations while exercising their professional judgement for patients 3 years old or older. An authorized pharmacist may also delegate administration to a qualified pharmacy technician (according to NDAC 61-04-11) or another healthcare professional (if authorized by their respective healthcare act). Please refer to the full protocol for more information.

Addressing conflict of guidelines: Protocol is based upon current criteria established by the United States CDC and/or ACIP. If a conflict does arise between this protocol and future guidelines, the most current CDC and/or ACIP guidelines will supersede.

Types of immunizations: This protocol applies to ACIP/CDC approved vaccinations from their regular and catch-up schedules, immunizations recommended for travel, and emergency immunizations approved during a public health emergency.

Provided to the patient: Patient handouts and/or VIS paperwork should be given to the patient prior to administration. Authorized pharmacists shall screen each patient for appropriateness of receiving a vaccine and provide recommendation to the patient prior to vaccine ordering and administration. The patient shall be observed for immediate adverse reactions by the authorized pharmacist. The patient should be requested to remain in an observation area for a minimum of 15 minutes.

Records and Reporting: Must obtain informed consent prior to administration. This consent may be done verbally or written. Must record all immunizations ordered and administered. These records need to be kept at least 5 years from the date of administration. Any immunization ordered and administered must be reported to NDIIS within 14 days of its administration. This step can be done by either the authorized pharmacist or their designee. Report any adverse events following an immunization administration, even if the cause of said event is unclear. Also notify a patient's primary care provider of this events if they occur.

Safety: Authorized pharmacists shall have CPR or BLS certification, access to epinephrine and other related emergency supplies. They will also follow OSHA regulations and state law for injection needle safety and disposal.