



NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance

Item 2440 – Keith Vance Elected to Second Term as Board Member From the Northern District; Chris Sain Elected to First Term as Board Member From the Western District

North Carolina Board of Pharmacy members and staff congratulate Keith Vance of Lewisville, NC, for being elected by North Carolina pharmacists for a second term as the member from the Northern District, and Chris Sain of Hickory, NC, for being elected to a first term as the member from the Western District. The Board certified the election results at its March 2, 2022 meeting. A total of 1,854 votes were cast between November 1, 2021, and March 1, 2022. Complete results are available [here](#).

Once commissioned by Governor Roy Cooper, they will take office effective May 1, 2022.

The Board expresses its heartfelt appreciation to the other candidates for Board membership: Mike Anneken and Mike Long from the Western District, and Rob Harrison, Joe Maki, and Josh McDuffie from the Northern District. Their commitment to public service is evident by their candidacy and the showing of support that each garnered during the election.

Item 2441 – Revised Centralized Pharmacy Services Rule Clears Final Review; Implementation Is Underway

The Board's revised centralized pharmacy services rule has cleared final review. The chief change achieved by the amendments is to broaden the availability of remote medication order processing (RMOP) from the health system practice setting to all pharmacy practice settings. More information about the revised rule is found [here](#).

The amended rule was effective March 1, 2022, however, several implementation tasks needed to be completed. Chief among them, Board staff programmed a registration system for out-of-state pharmacists who are

National Pharmacy Compliance News

A Service of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation (NABPF)

Visit NABP's website for the latest regulatory updates and news from FDA, USP, NABP, and more.

[Read National News](#)

not licensed in North Carolina, but who intend to provide remote medication order entry (RMOE) services to North Carolina pharmacies by obtaining a National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) Verify credential. NABP staff has implemented the NABP Verify credential application process. [Learn more](#) about how to register as a NABP-Verify pharmacist to provide RMOP services.

In the meantime, North Carolina pharmacies that have implemented RMOE systems under the Board's emergency services waiver may continue to use them. The Board will ensure that once the registration and NABP Verify systems are operational, pharmacies that have deployed waiver-based RMOE operations are provided reasonable time and opportunity to transfer to rule-based operations.

Board staff has published a detailed [frequently asked questions document](#) on the revised centralized pharmacy services rule.

Pharmacists are reminded that the Board is proceeding with additional rulemaking to permanently authorize North Carolina pharmacy personnel to perform remote work (other than physical acts in the dispensing process) for their employing pharmacy. North Carolina pharmacies that have implemented waiver-based remote work systems in North Carolina may continue to use them while this rulemaking proceeds. More information on this proposed rule is found [here](#).

Item 2442 – Implementation of New Immunizing Pharmacist Authorities Proceeding

On August 19, 2021, Governor Cooper signed Session Law (SL) 2021-110, which expands practice authority for certain immunizing pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. The Board's [guidance document](#) reviews the granted authorities, timelines, and conditions for implementation, and how existing United States Department of Health and Human Services Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act declarations intersect with (and in some cases supersede) this authority. As this guidance details, full implementation of SL 2021-110 requires several actions over different timelines. Board staff will update this guidance document regularly as those processes go forward.

As detailed in the linked guidance document, portions of the statute authorizing pharmacists to initiate certain drug therapies – including hormonal contraceptives – were effective February 1, 2022. However, these new authorities were not implemented until the state health director issued standing orders to do so on March 15. Stakeholders worked diligently together to craft the [standing orders](#).

Item 2443 – Board of Pharmacy and North Carolina Association of Pharmacists Partner to Assess Community Pharmacy Working Conditions

The issues of pharmacist workload, burnout, and well-being in the community pharmacy setting, and their effect on patient safety, have been considered for years. But the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has brought concerns related to these issues to the forefront. Throughout the pandemic, North Carolina pharmacists have gone above and beyond to care for their patients. Pharmacists across the state have performed countless COVID-19 tests and provided lifesaving vaccines and treatments to tens of thousands of patients, all while providing traditional pharmacy care in their practices. Board members are grateful for all that pharmacists have done and continue to do.

Providing these crucial additional services have stretched pharmacists both professionally and personally. In March, the Board of Pharmacy partnered with the North Carolina Association of Pharmacists (NCAP) on a survey concerning community pharmacy working conditions. The Board appreciates those who took the opportunity to provide insight to how these conditions affect the way they practice and their overall well-being. The Board and NCAP are analyzing the survey results to inform potential actions to address unsafe workplace conditions within the purview of the Board's mission to protect the public safety of the citizens of North Carolina.

Item 2444 – Follow the Board Website for Continual Updates on COVID-19-Related Matters, Including Vaccination Process and Authority

Staff continue to frequently update the Board [website](#) on general COVID-19-related matters and specifically on COVID-19 vaccination matters. Updates are posted on the home page of the website, then periodically consolidated in a general COVID-19 updates [section](#) and a COVID-19 vaccination-related updates and resources [section](#). Key updates are also included in a weekly email to all pharmacists.

The North Carolina Board of Pharmacy News is published by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation® (NABPF®) to promote compliance of pharmacy and drug law. The opinions and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or policies of NABPF or the Board unless expressly so stated.

Jack W. "Jay" Campbell IV, JD, RPh - State News Editor

Lemrey "Al" Carter, PharmD, MS, RPh - National News Editor & Executive Editor

Amy Sanchez - Publications and Editorial Manager

6015 Farrington Rd, Suite 201 | Chapel Hill, NC 27517 | 919/246-1050 | Fax: 919/246-1056 | www.ncbop.org
