



# MINNESOTA BOARD OF PHARMACY

*newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance*

## ***Disciplinary Actions Listed Online***

Because of space limitations, information on disciplinary actions is no longer included in the *Minnesota Board of Pharmacy Newsletter*. A document that provides information about recent Board disciplinary actions can be found on the Board's [website](#) under the "Resources/FAQs" menu item.

## ***Pharmacy Technician Renewals Overdue***

Pharmacy technician registration renewals were due on December 1, 2022. Technicians were then given the month of December as a "grace period." The registrations of technicians who failed to renew by December 31, 2022, have expired. Individuals cannot continue working as technicians if their registrations have expired. Pharmacists-in-charge (PICs) are encouraged to verify that technicians working under their supervision have current registrations. This can be done using the license verification feature on the Board's [website](#). If an unregistered individual performs duties that require a technician registration, the Board can take disciplinary action against that individual, the PIC, and the pharmacy.

Pharmacy technicians are reminded they must report any changes in name, residence, or place of employment to the Board within 10 days of the change. The change notification form can be found on the Board's website.

## ***Pharmacist License Renewals Due Soon***

Pharmacists who want to renew their license for the license period that starts on March 1, 2023, may do so at this time. Renewal reminders are emailed out to all licensed pharmacists, and the Board encourages pharmacists to make sure that the email address on their

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record is one that they currently use. The Board encourages licensees to take advantage of the online renewal option for faster processing.

To renew your license, visit the [Board's website](#) and select the "Login to My Account" item from the "How Do I" tab in the upper right-hand corner of the page. This will take you to the sign-in page. Click on the appropriate links and follow the prompts. The renewal screen will also allow you to change your address, update your employment, or change your license status. As a reminder, Minnesota Rule 6800.2500 states that pharmacists "shall notify the Board of Pharmacy immediately of any change in location of employment or change of residence address." There is a change notification form available on the website under the "Forms" menu item that can be used to report changes that occur outside of the renewal period.

If you would rather submit a paper renewal, follow the directions in the paragraph above. Use the appropriate links on your account page to make any address and employment changes. Once you have made any necessary changes to your addresses and employment, instead of clicking on "Renewal-In-Progress," click on "Print Pharmacist Renewal Invoice" at the bottom of the page. Print the invoice, sign and date it, and send it to the Board office with your payment. If you do not have an internet connection, contact the Board office at 651/201-2825, and the Board will print a renewal form to mail to you.

The renewal period for pharmacists opened in mid-December, and the deadline for completing the renewal process is **February 1**, not February 28, as many people mistakenly believe. The month of February is a grace period, during which no late fees are assessed for pharmacists who have missed the February 1 deadline. If your completed application and required fee are not received by the Board office prior to March 1, 2023, your license will expire, and the late fee will be imposed. You will not be allowed to practice pharmacy in the state of Minnesota until the Board receives the completed application and fees.

### ***PIC Needed to Conduct Business***

Pharmacies must have a PIC named in order to conduct business. According to Minnesota Statutes §151.34 Subdivision 10, conducting a pharmacy without a PIC is considered unlawful. The responsibilities and duties of a PIC, including the need to notify the Board immediately upon knowledge of termination of PIC status and naming a successor PIC, are described in Minnesota Rule 6800.2400. Forms for communicating changes to the assigned PIC can be found on the Board's [website](#). If a pharmacy is found to be operating without a PIC, the Board can take disciplinary action against that pharmacy.

### ***MIIC Provides Patient Immunization Status***

Pharmacists are reminded that, per Minnesota Statutes §151.01 Subdivision 27 (6), pharmacists must utilize the [Minnesota Immunization Information Connection \(MIIC\)](#) to assess the immunization status of individuals prior to the administration of vaccines, except when administering influenza vaccines to individuals age nine and older. Only checking individuals' coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

vaccination record cards does not meet this requirement. Immunizations, including COVID-19 primary series, COVID-19 boosters, shingles, pneumonia, and all other non-influenza vaccines, must be checked in MIIC before being administered to the patient.

### **USP Notice: Revised Chapters Available**

The revised United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Compounding General Chapters <795> Pharmaceutical Compounding—Nonsterile Preparations and <797> Pharmaceutical Compounding—Sterile Preparations are now published and available from USP. The USP Compounding Expert Committee voted to extend the implementation date for these chapters to November 1, 2023. Minnesota Rule 6800.3300 requires all licensed Minnesota pharmacies that compound nonsterile drug preparations to follow USP Chapter <795> standards and those engaged in sterile compounding to follow USP Chapter <797> standards.

The revisions to General Chapters <795> and <797> include cross-references to USP <800> Hazardous Drugs—Handling in Healthcare Settings. This will make USP <800> compendially applicable for facilities on November 1, 2023. USP has fact sheets and FAQ documents available on its [website](#).

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