# MINNESOTA BOARD OF PHARMACY

Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy and Drug Law Compliance.

#### **Disciplinary Actions**

The Minnesota Board of Pharmacy posts public orders of disciplinary actions via its online license/registration verification service.

When viewing a licensee or registrant, Board orders will be listed when public actions are present. When Board orders are made public, a file and date are included, and a link to download public documents is available. Discipline is summarized on the Board's website under the "Resources/FAQs" menu item, while the orders are publicly available via the online license/registration verification service.

### 2025 Legislative Update

The Board recently sent an email informing licensees that a summary of statutory changes passed during the 2025 legislative session is available on the Board's

website. Certain changes are already in effect, including updates to the Internships and Medication Repository Program sections.

## Access the National Pharmacy Compliance News

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# **Board of Pharmacy Communications Page**

A copy of relevant communications sent by the Board under the MNBOP@public.govdelivery.com mass email platform is maintained on the Board's website. Please do not attempt to correspond with or reply to that address, as it is for outgoing communications

#### **Board of Pharmacy Communications Page**

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only. These communications are currently published on the Resources/FAQs section of the website.

This section may be referenced to view, sort, or review communications the Board has provided by mass email notification. Often, the messages are only directed to a particular group of licensees or registrants.

For example, a series of six emails was sent to technicians in July 2025, reminding them to certify the completion of their continuing education hours by July 31, 2025. However, with each communication, the audience became smaller, as more technicians completed this requirement.

Sometimes this information is valuable for other licensee audiences, such as pharmacists who supervise technicians or preceptors who support interns. Please ensure that you add the above address to your email platform's "safe senders" list to receive these important messages.

#### **Vaccine Preparation and Administration**

Vaccination is an important service that pharmacists provide. Pharmacists are responsible for reviewing patient history, assessing the need for immunizations, screening for contraindications, educating patients, and preparing and administering vaccines.

Licensees are reminded of the following important considerations for vaccine prescribing, preparation, and administration in pharmacies:

 Vaccine preparation should occur in a clean, designated area away from sinks, and the

- area should be cleaned and disinfected regularly.
- The designated area and adjacent areas should be free of potential contaminants, including food or beverages.
- Proper hygiene and aseptic technique must be utilized for vaccine preparation and administration.
- A pharmacist must certify the prescription and the prepared dose prior to administration and is required to counsel the patient under Minnesota Rule 6800.0910.

 The vaccinator must ensure proper identification of the patient and the vaccine(s) to be administered prior to administration.

Minnesota laws cite the
Advisory Committee on
Immunization Practices' (ACIP's)
recommendations as the legal
requirements. ACIP is a division
of Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC) that
maintains additional vaccine and
immunization resources on its
website.



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#### **NIOSH List of Hazardous Drugs**

Last December, CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) released its updated *List of Hazardous Drugs* in Healthcare Settings, 2024. This list is designed to assist employers in identifying drugs that are hazardous to the health and safety of workers who handle them. It is also an important reference for employees and is incorporated by reference in Minnesota Rules related to compounding standards.



#### **NCPDP Standards Update in CMS Final Rule**

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published its final rule, "Medicare Program; Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program; Health Information Technology Standards and Implementation Specifications," in July 2024. This rule updated the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) standards for the electronic prescription processes for prescribers and dispensers.

The rule affects e-prescribing for Part D prescriptions, compliance

with Drug Enforcement
Administration (DEA) standards
required for e-prescribing, and
real-time benefit tools for Part D.
These standards are also required
for any pharmacy to be compliant
with DEA regulations for the
electronic transfer of controlled
substance prescriptions that have
not yet been filled. Pharmacies
are reminded that such electronic
transfer is not compliant with DEA
regulations until the pharmacy
has implemented the new NCPDP
standards.

Either version of the NCPDP SCRIPT standard may be used until the deadline for implementation. The deadline for NCPDP SCRIPT Standard Version 2023011 varies depending on which section of the rule it applies to. See CMS.gov for more information on this topic. Beginning on January 1, 2028, entities must exclusively use NCPDP SCRIPT Standard Version 2023011 for Part D electronic prescription transmission and receipt.

#### **Provision of Patient Medication Information**

Printed medication information is important for patients' understanding of their prescriptions and for improving

patient safety, but there are many different types of information a patient may receive. Currently, Food and Drug Administration is proposing to amend its labeling regulations to require a new type of medication guide, or "Patient Medication Information" (PMI),

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#### **Provision of Patient Medication Information**

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to provide patients with a more consistent and understandable format each time a prescription drug product is dispensed. The PMI would be stored online and accessible to the public. Like the current expectation, this rule would require distribution to the patient in a paper format but allow for electronic distribution upon a patient's request. Electronic distribution of this information should not be the default method of communication.

#### **Executive Director Jill Phillips Retires**

Jill Phillips retired from the Board at the end of July. The Board and staff express gratitude for Jill's service to the Board and the state of Minnesota. Jill started with the Board as a surveyor in October 2017. She was appointed to be Minnesota's first female Board of Pharmacy executive director in April 2022. The position opening was posted from August 11 to September 2, 2025.

During its August meeting, the Board appointed a search and hiring committee to review applicants and make further recommendations.

#### **Board Public Member Position Opening**

John Zwier resigned from the Board's public member #1 position, effective August 29, 2025. The Board and staff appreciate John's service, along with his engagement and insightful discussion of public policy items. The public member position is currently open for applications on the Secretary of State Board/Commission website. Public members must meet qualification and exclusion criteria found in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 214.02 and other related sections.

All members of the Board of Pharmacy are appointed by the governor. The Board consists of three public members and six pharmacist members, each serving a term of four years, starting on the first Monday in January.

The Minnesota Board of Pharmacy Newsletter is published by the Minnesota 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.

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