



Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists

September 17, 2020



Michael D. Hogue, PharmD, FAPhA, FNAP
Dean and Professor
Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy
President, APhA

Host and Moderator

Today's Focus:

Discuss the HHS authorities for pharmacists for childhood and COVID-19 vaccines, the associated requirements, and the implications for your practice.



Rebecca P. Snead, RPh, FAPhA
Chief Executive Officer, Executive Vice
President
National Alliance of State Pharmacy
Associations (NASPA)

Guest Speaker



Ilisa BG Bernstein, PharmD, JD, FAPhA
Senior Vice President
Pharmacy Practice and Government Affairs
American Pharmacists Association

Speaker



Mitchel Rothholz, RPh, MBA
Chief of Governance & State Affiliates
American Pharmacists Association

Executive Director
American Pharmacists Association
Foundation

Speaker



Daniel Zlott, PharmD, BCOP
Senior Vice President
Education and Business Development
American Pharmacists Association

Subject Matter Expert: Q&A

Format for Today's Webinar

1:00 pm: Introductions

1:05 pm: Presentation from Ilisa Bernstein

1:15 pm: Discussion with Ilisa Bernstein, Mitch Rothholz & Rebecca Snead

1:30 pm: Open Forum Q&A

1:55 pm: Wrap Up: Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming

Open Forum Ground Rules

- Use the **Questions** field on the GoToWebinar toolbar to submit comments and questions related to the topic discussion
- Individuals whose submissions are selected will be asked by the moderator to state the comment or question for the audience. The line for the individual will be unmuted to read their comment or question.
- To maximize the number of questions/comments addressed, a **60-second time limit** will be in effect for everyone to state their question or comment.
- We will try to get to as many comments and questions as possible. We have created a new forum for COVID-19 discussions where further discussion post-webinar. Information on participating in this forum will be provided at the end of the open forum.



Presentation from Ilisa Bernstein

Discuss the HHS authorities for pharmacists for childhood and COVID-19 vaccines, the associated requirements, and the implications for your practice.




Pharmacists' Authority to Immunize During COVID-19

- Childhood vaccines
- COVID-19 vaccine
- Authorized only during the public health emergency
 - Preempts state laws that are a barrier to national implementation

Requirement	COVID-19 Vaccinations	Childhood Vaccinations
Individuals Authorized	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-licensed pharmacists to order and administer State-licensed or registered pharmacy interns acting under the supervision of the qualified pharmacist to administer 	
Patient Age	3 years or older	3-18 years old
Vaccine	FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed	FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed
ACIP Guidelines/Recommendations	COVID-19 vaccine recommendations	Standard Immunization schedules
Pharmacist Training	An ACPE-approved practical training program of at least 20 hours that includes hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines. Resources: APhA's Certificate Training Program for Pharmacy-based Immunization Delivery meets this requirement.	
Pharmacy Intern Training	An ACPE-approved practical training program (similar to pharmacist training requirement)	An ACPE-approved practical training program that includes hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines.
Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	The pharmacist and pharmacy intern must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation.	
Continuing Education	The pharmacist must complete a minimum of two hours of ACPE-approved, immunization-related continuing pharmacy education during each state licensing period. Resources: Access APhA's Education Library for Immunization CPE.	

[Access This Chart](#)

Requirement	COVID-19 Vaccinations	Childhood Vaccinations
Recordkeeping	The pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers vaccines, including reviewing the vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine.	The pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers vaccines, including informing the patient's primary-care provider when available, submitting the required immunization information to the State or local immunization information system (vaccine registry), complying with requirements with respect to reporting adverse events, and complying with requirements whereby the person administering a vaccine must review the vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine.
Well-child Visit	If the patient is 18 years of age or younger, the pharmacist must inform the patient and the adult caregiver accompanying the patient of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary-care provider and refer patients as appropriate. Resources: Well-Child Visit Brochure , Template Referral Form Well-Child Visit , Well-Child Checkup Letter	
Additional Requirements	The pharmacist and the pharmacy intern must comply with any applicable requirements (or conditions of use) as set forth in the CDC COVID-19 vaccination provider agreement and any other federal requirements that apply to the administration of COVID-19 vaccine(s).	

[Access This Chart](#)

Well-child Visits - Templates

"the licensed pharmacist must, if the patient is 18 years of age or younger, inform the patient and the adult caregiver accompanying the patient of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary-care provider and refer patients as appropriate."

Referral Form

<https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/immunizations>



The image shows a "Referral Form for Well-Child Visit" from the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). The form includes fields for Patient Name (First/Last), Date of Birth, Referring Pharmacist, Pharmacy Practice, FAX Number, Email, and Phone Number. It also has a section for Signature and Date of Referral. A paragraph states: "The above patient was seen in our pharmacy/practice today and the following vaccines administered. The patient was informed regarding the importance of well-child visits. Additional items needing potential follow-up are indicated below. Feel free to contact us if you have further questions. We would appreciate receiving an update after you have seen the patient so that our records are current and we can support your treatment plan. We have submitted the vaccines we gave today to the state/local immunization information system (IIS)." Below this, there are two checkboxes: "Well-child checkup" and "Other follow-up". A table lists various vaccines with checkboxes for administration: DTaP, Hep A, Hep B, Hib, HPV, Influenza, MMR, Meningococcal, Pneumococcal (PCV), Polio (IPV), Rotavirus, Td / Tdap, and Varicella. There is also a section for "Patient may need additional immunization(s)" with checkboxes and a "Comment:" field. At the bottom, there is a section for "Comments / Observations".

Well-child Visits - Templates

Importance of Well Child Visits – Keeping Your Kids Healthy

It is important to get a personal primary care provider and to use the same practitioners as much as possible for your child's healthcare needs. The members of your child's healthcare team, that includes primary care providers, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals, are focused on the well-being of your child. A personal primary care provider:

- Helps you get care for your child
- Provides care when your child is sick
- Knows your child's medical history as well as your family history
- Keeps track of your child's medical services, such as immunizations (shots)
- Gives you important information about your child's growth and development
- Refers your child to a specialist when needed
- Helps to coordinate your child's health needs



Well child visits are important, even when children are healthy. Well child visits will help to keep your child healthy. Your child's primary care provider will evaluate your child's general health, growth and development. Your child's primary care provider will also give you information and give your child needed medical services, such as:

- Health exams
- Tests, such as vision, hearing and lab services
- Shots (vaccinations)
- Lead screening (children under 3 years or as needed for older children)
- Tracking growth and development
- Medical referrals to specialists, if needed

With the help of regular well child visits, your child's primary care provider can often detect and address health problems before they become more serious.

Your children's primary care provider will review your child's health and family history. Well child visits let you and your child get to know the primary care provider and they can get to know you and your child. They will also maintain keep your child's medical record and coordinate care with other members of your child's healthcare team, including your pharmacist.

Well-child
Visit Brochure

[TEMPLATE – to be placed on pharmacy letterhead]

Date **xx/xx/200x**

Dear **Name of Patient,**

You have taken an important step in protecting your child and your family from infectious disease through vaccination. Your pharmacist is an important part of your healthcare team and strives to collaborate with other providers to best meet your child's individual healthcare needs. Just as your pharmacist provides important services related to your child's medications and overall health, having a primary care provider is also important. A primary care provider oversees your child's overall health and well-being.

As children develop, well-child visits with your child's primary care provider offers a time to review and discuss each of the important areas of your child's physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development. A trusting, ongoing relationship with a primary care provider, ensures that your child's health and medical needs will be identified and addressed. Your provider can assist in coordinating tests, checkups and follow up care.

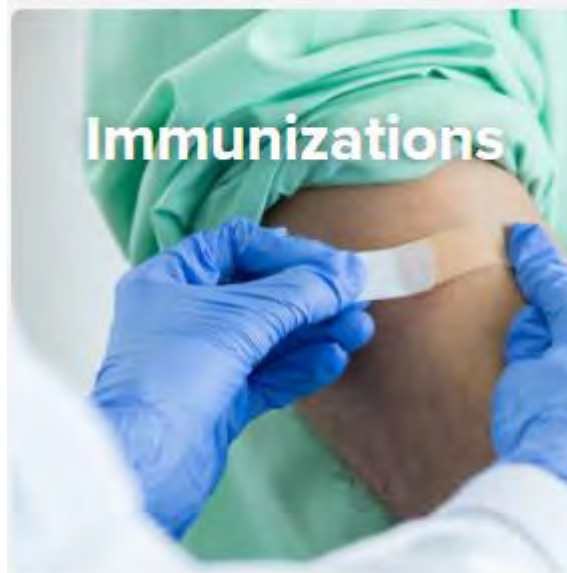
Ask your pharmacist for assistance in finding a primary care provider in your community if you do not currently have one.


[Pharmacist]

Well-child Check
Up Letter

Pharmacists' Guide to Coronavirus


www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus




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Immunizations During COVID-19



Featured Updates

HHS Expands COVID-19 Vaccine Access

HHS authorizes pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 vaccines approved or licensed by FDA to all individuals age 3 or older.

NIAID Volunteer Opportunity

The COVID-19 Prevention Network seeks pharmacists and pharmacy personnel to inform the public of the opportunity to participate in COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials.

Flu Season/COVID Webinar

Recommendations for the upcoming influenza season, the implications of the pandemic, and new approaches to immunization activities in your practice.

Providing Immunizations

[APhA Weekly Open Forum Webinar: Phall, Phlu, Pharmacy Amidst COVID-19 \(September 10\)](#)
Learn about recommendations for the upcoming influenza season, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and new approaches to immunization activities in your practice. ([Video](#) - [Slides](#))

Well-Child Visit Templates: Tools to Meet HHS Requirement (September 9)
A Task Force on Pharmacist Engagement in State-Based COVID Vaccination comprising APhA, NASPA, and NCPA and state pharmacy association executives developed three tools for use by pharmacists to satisfy the requirement under the HHS Amendments authorizing pharmacists to administer childhood and COVID-19 vaccines. The latest HHS Amendment states: "the licensed pharmacist must, if the patient is 18 years of age or younger, inform the patient and the adult caregiver accompanying the patient of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary-care provider and refer patients as appropriate." Two tools are Word documents, so individuals may customize or add data.
[Well-Child Visit Brochure \(PDF\)](#)
[Template Referral Form Well-Child Visit \(Word\)](#)
[Well-Child Checkup Letter \(Word\)](#)

APhA Know the Facts: Vaccination Basics: A Guide for Pharmacists Vaccinating During the COVID-19 Pandemic (July 8)
While scientists around the world work to develop a vaccine against the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), many pharmacists remain on the front line, providing essential patient care services during this public health crisis, including vaccinations. Here are vaccination FAQs. ([PDF](#))

Discussion with Ilisa Bernstein, Mitch Rothholz & Rebecca Snead

Discuss the HHS authorities for pharmacists for childhood and COVID-19 vaccines, the associated requirements, and the implications for your practice.

Polling Question

Do you feel confident in your knowledge and ability to order/prescribe COVID-19 vaccine as allowed under the HHS authority?

- A. Yes
- B. No

Polling Question

Do you feel confident in your knowledge and ability to order/prescribe childhood vaccine as allowed under the HHS authority?

- A. Yes
- B. No

Open Forum Discussion: Audience Reflections *Successes, Barriers, Opportunities*

Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming

Advocating for You on Coronavirus



“Drug Pricing” Executive Orders

- Pricing tagged to international prices (Now, both Medicare B + D)
- Drug Importation
- Rebate Reform (DIR fees may or may not be included)



Sec. 2. Policy. (a) It is the policy of the United States that the Medicare program should not pay more for costly Part B or Part D prescription drugs or biological products than the most-favored-nation price.

It's Game Time! Tell Congress Pharmacists Can Help Fight COVID-19 and Influenza!

- House leadership said this week that they will stay in session until a deal on a new coronavirus relief package is reached
- APhA is asking Congress to include payment for testing language be included in any legislation that is moving, including this COVID-response bill
- Your immediate participation will help spur conversation within Congress about the need for pharmacists' provider status during the public health emergency.
- We need ALL of our representatives to advocate to Congressional leadership in both parties to ensure this receives the attention it – and our patients – deserve so it is included in the next legislative package!

Take Action Now!

Congress is currently crafting new emergency legislation to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact your federal legislators immediately and ask them to allow pharmacists to test Medicare patients for COVID-19 and influenza.

First & Last Name


Email

Address

City Zip

Next

☒ Allow American Pharmacists Association to contact me about important future issues

 Powered by OneClickPolitics

To take action now, go to: <https://actioncenter.pharmacist.com/campaign/coronavirus/>

To learn about how you can call your representatives, contact Mary-Ryan Douglass at mrDouglass@aphanet.org

APhA COVID-19 Resources: Know the Facts



Practical Information for Pharmacists to Know Now


New Resource:

- Personal Protective Equipment During the Pandemic: A Guide to Protecting Yourself and Your Patients
- Pharmacist's Authority to Immunize During COVID-19

Recently Updated:

- COVID-19 Basics, NABP Passport, Engaging the Pharmacist Workforce


Check out the library of [practice resources here](#)

APhA COVID-19 RESOURCES: KNOW THE FACTS


Personal Protective Equipment During the Pandemic


A Guide to Protecting Yourself and Your Patients

The COVID-19 pandemic is rapidly evolving and has placed a tremendous strain on the health care system. With pharmacy personnel being one of the most accessible health care professionals on the front line, it is important that they stay safe and be protected. Pharmacists must be well informed about safety and have enough access to personal protective equipment (PPE) to keep themselves, their staff, and their families safe. Because no cure is currently available for COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2), prevention is the best measure of containing the infection.



PPE Training

- [PPE Definitions](#)
- [CDC Guidance on Using PPE](#)
- [CDC Proper Use Videos](#)
- [CDC PPE FAQ](#)
- [APhA PPE FAQ](#)

APhA COVID-19 RESOURCES: KNOW THE FACTS


Minimum COVID-19 PPE Recommendations

Personal Protective Equipment During the Pandemic

It is important to note that this table outlines the minimum PPE requirements in each practice setting to protect against COVID-19 infection. PPE requirements may differ depending on employer policies, the level of community transmission and service being provided.

Pharmacy Setting	Respirator	Facemask	Cloth Mask	Eye Protection (Goggles/Face Shields)	Gloves	Gowns/Coveralls
Community		✓	If no facemask is available	In areas with moderate to substantial community transmission		
Clinic: Suspicion of COVID-19	✓	If no N95 is available		✓	✓	✓
Clinic: No Suspicion of COVID-19		✓	If no facemask is available			
Hospital: Suspected or confirmed COVID-19 Patient	✓	If no N95 is available		✓	✓	✓
Hospital: Not Suspected of COVID-19		✓	If no facemask is available			
All settings: Patients			✓			

Pharmacy Service	Respirator	Facemask	Cloth Mask	Eye Protection (Goggles/Face Shields)	Gloves	Gowns/Coveralls
Immunizations		✓		In areas with moderate to substantial community transmission		
Testing Site	✓	If no N95 is available		✓	✓	✓

Updated September 15, 2020 • Co

COVID-19 Education Opportunities – CE Available


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New eLearning Program Available!

Learn how to help patients catch up on immunizations they may have missed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

[Click here to enroll!](#)

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Available Until 9/15/2023

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Instructor

Kimberly C. McKeirnan,
PharmD, BCACP

Catch Up and Keep Up with Immunizations in the Era of COVID-19

Activity Preview

Due to the declared national state of emergency during the COVID-19 pandemic, many children have missed vital doses in their recommended vaccination schedules. As regulations on obtaining childhood immunizations have loosened, we need to help our patients understand the importance of and pathway to catching up on missed immunizations. As pharmacists, we should refamiliarize ourselves with the vaccination schedule as well as strategies for catching up on missed immunizations. In this session pharmacists will learn how they can play an important role in assisting children and their parents in catching up on missed vaccinations that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this application-based activity, participants will be able to:

- Summarize the recommended pediatric immunizations and the normal schedule for their administration.
- Discuss the pharmacist's role in identifying patients who may have missed immunizations secondary to COVID-19.
- Develop an action plan to assist patient caregivers to safely allow children to catch up on their immunization series because of COVID-19.

Activity type: Application-based

Target Audience: Pharmacists

Learning Level: 2

COVID-19 Education Opportunities – **CE Available**

[Pharmacist Use of IIS Data](#)

– September 17th from 2:30-3:30pm ET

[APhA's Education Library for Immunization CPE](#)

[APhA's 15 on COVID-19 Series](#)

Post on **ENGAGE**

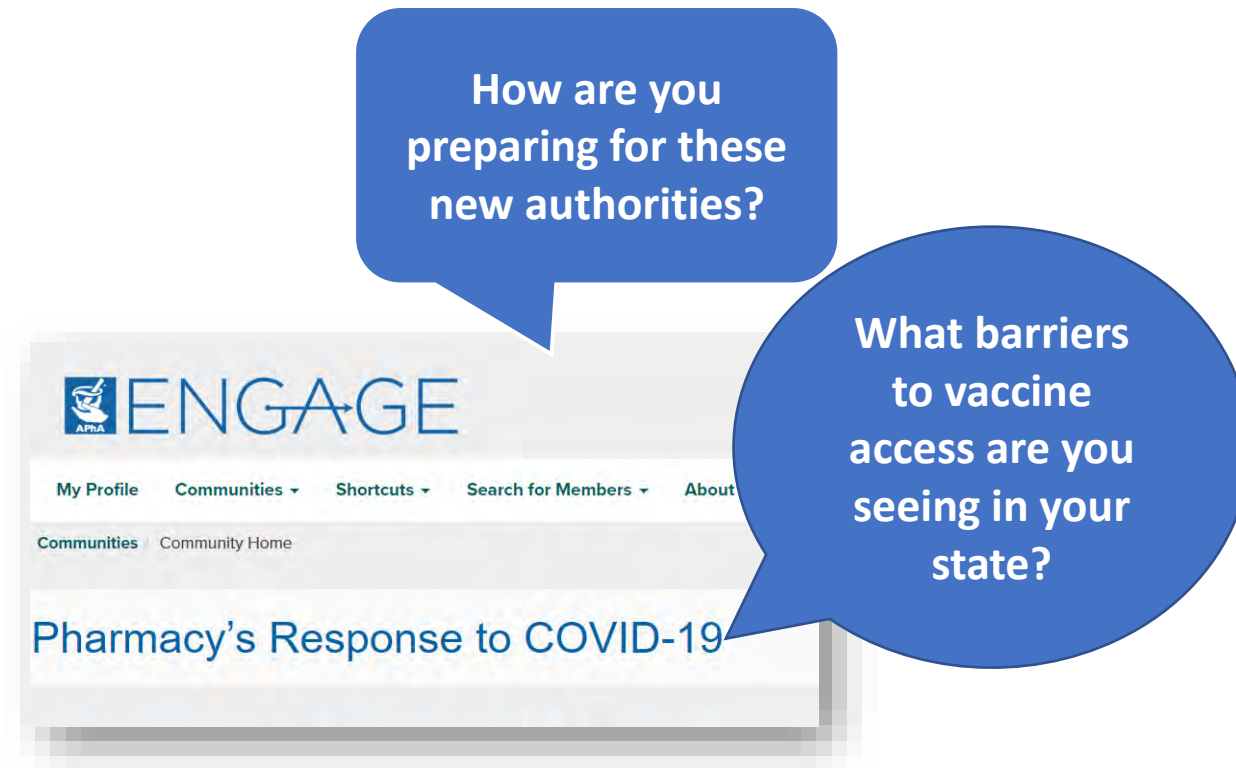
Pharmacy's Response to COVID-19

POST your questions

SHARE your lessons learned

SUPPORT your colleagues

ACCESS the latest information



Join Us

- Our **25th weekly webinar** will be on **Thursday, September 24th, from 1-2pm ET**
- **A Listening Session with APhA CEO & EVP Scott Knoer and the APhA Board of Trustees – [Register Here](#)**
- Today's webinar recording and slides will be available within 24hrs

[View Past Weekly Webinars Here](#)