



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

**November 19, 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 roles of the pharmacy technician in expanding immunizations and COVID-19 testing.



**Kimberly McKeirnan, PharmD, BCACP**

Director, Center for Pharmacy Practice  
Research

Associate Professor, Department of  
Pharmacotherapy

Washington State University College of  
Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

*Guest Speaker*



**Arlinda Newcomb, CPhT, L.N.A.**  
Whiteriver Service Unit  
Indian Hospital Service

*Guest Speaker*



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

*Subject Matter Expert: Q&A*



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

*Subject Matter Expert: Q&A*



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

Executive Director  
American Pharmacists Association  
Foundation

*Subject Matter Expert: Q&A*

# Format for Today's Webinar

**1:00 pm:** Introductions

**1:05 pm:** Interview with Kimberly McKeirnan and Arlinda Newcomb

**1:25 pm:** Open Forum Q&A

**1:45 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.



# Interview with Kimberly McKeirnan & Arlinda Newcomb

Discuss the roles of the pharmacy technician in expanding immunizations and COVID-19 testing.

# Technician Authority to Immunize During COVID-19

Requirement	COVID-19 Vaccinations	Childhood Vaccinations
Who Is Authorized?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State-licensed pharmacists to order and administer</li> <li>State-authorized pharmacy interns (“intern”)* acting under the supervision of a readily available, qualified pharmacist to administer</li> <li>Qualified pharmacy technicians (“technicians”)* acting under the supervision of a readily available qualified pharmacist to administer</li> </ul>	
Age Requirements	3 years or older	3–18 years old
Vaccine Requirements	FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed	FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed
ACIP Guidelines/Recommendations	COVID-19 vaccine recommendations	<a href="#">Standard Immunization schedules</a>

## Qualified Pharmacy Technician (“Technician”)

- Pharmacy technicians working in states with licensure and/or registration requirements must be licensed and/or registered in accordance with state requirements.
- Pharmacy technicians working in states without licensure and/or registration requirements must have a Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPHT) certification from either the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board or the National Healthcareer Association.

# Training Requirements

Requirement	COVID-19 Vaccinations	Childhood Vaccinations
Pharmacy Intern and Technician Training Requirement	The <b>intern</b> and <b>technician</b> must complete 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 Requirement	The <b>pharmacist</b> , <b>intern</b> , and <b>technician</b> must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation.	
CPE Requirement	The <b>pharmacist</b> and <b>technician</b> must complete a minimum of 2 hours of ACPE-approved, immunization-related continuing pharmacy education during each state licensing period. <b>Resources:</b> <a href="#">Access APhA's Education Library for Immunization CPE.</a>	

Contact APhA about our ACPE-approved practice training program at [Education@aphanet.org](mailto:Education@aphanet.org)

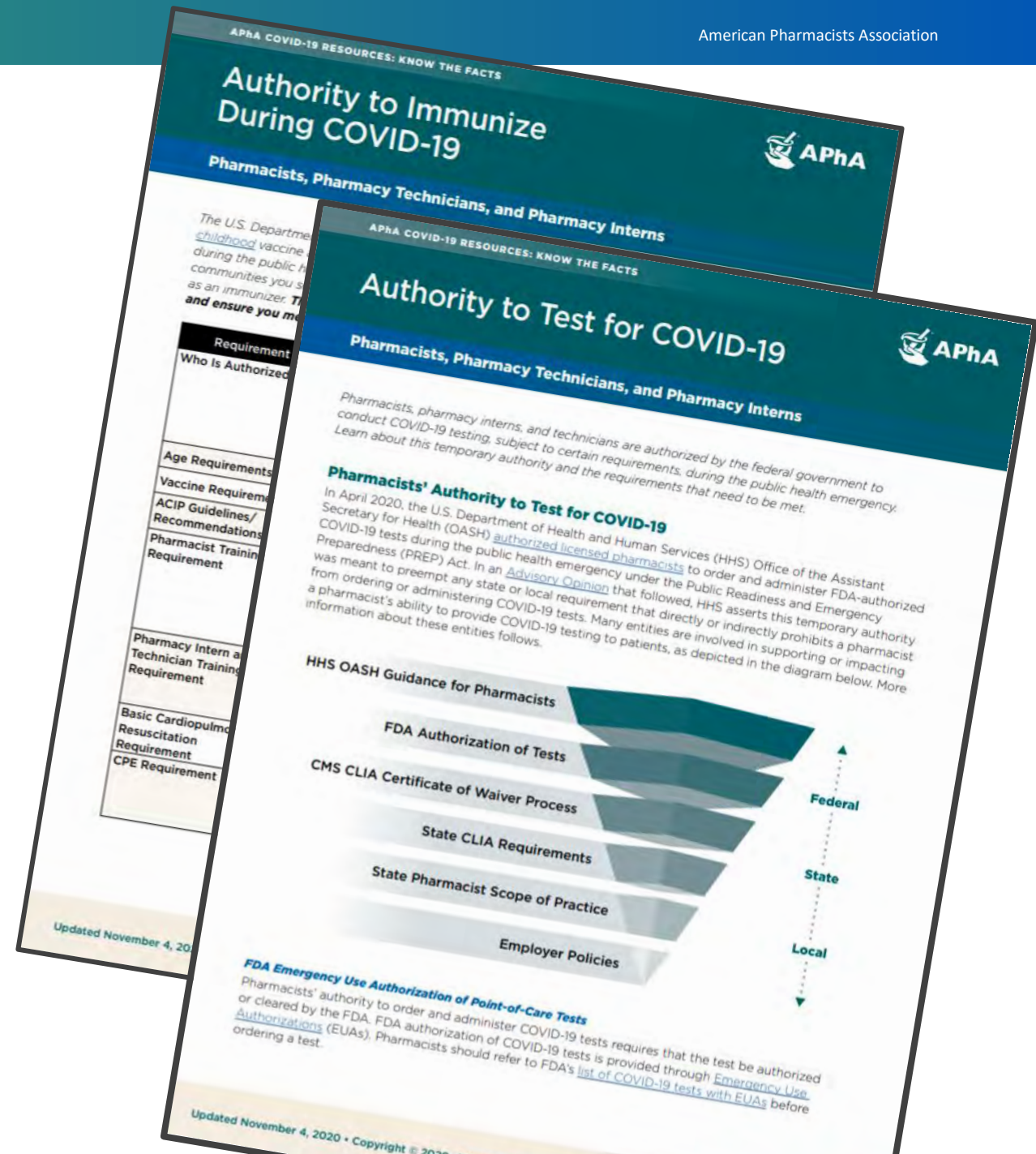
Requirement	COVID-19 Vaccinations	Childhood Vaccinations
<b>Recordkeeping Requirement</b>	The <b>pharmacist</b> must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers vaccines, including reviewing the vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine.	<p>The pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers vaccines, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informing the patient's primary care provider, when available</li> <li>• Submitting the required immunization information to the state or local immunization information system (vaccine registry)</li> <li>• Complying with requirements with respect to reporting adverse events</li> <li>• Complying with requirements whereby the person administering a vaccine must review the vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine</li> </ul>
<b>Well-child Visit Requirement</b>	<p>If the patient is 18 years of age or younger, the <b>pharmacist, intern, or technician</b> 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. <b>Resources:</b> <a href="#">Well-Child Visit Brochure</a>, <a href="#">Template Referral Form Well-Child Visit</a>, <a href="#">Well-Child Checkup Letter</a></p>	

Access APhA's ***Authority to Immunize During COVID-19*** and ***Authority to Test for COVID-19*** in our Know the Facts: Practice resource library -

<https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/practice-resources>

View the HHS Guidance -

<https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/prep-act-guidance.pdf>





# Polling Question

Pharmacy technicians in my practice are...

- A. Actively administering vaccines
- B. Completing training and/or requirements
- C. Planning to complete training and/or requirements
- D. Not planning to administer vaccines

# Open Forum Discussion: A Minute for Your Thoughts *Comments, Questions, Feedback*

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

# Advocating for You on Coronavirus



**HHS.gov**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 12, 2020

Contact: HHS Press Office  
202-690-6343  
[media@hhs.gov](mailto:media@hhs.gov)

## Trump Administration Partners with Chain and Independent Community Pharmacies to Increase Access to Future COVID-19 Vaccines

To maximize access to COVID-19 vaccines for all Americans, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today announced the U.S. government's partnerships with large chain pharmacies and networks that represent independent pharmacies and regional chains. Through the partnership with pharmacy chains, this program covers approximately 60 percent of pharmacies throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Through the partnerships with network administrators, independent pharmacies and regional chains will also be part of the federal pharmacy program, further increasing access to vaccine across the country—particularly in traditionally underserved areas.

[View the press release.](#)

**Federal Pharmacy Partnership Strategy for COVID-19 Vaccination** - Select pharmacy partners will receive a direct allocation of COVID-19 vaccine

# Advocating for You on Coronavirus

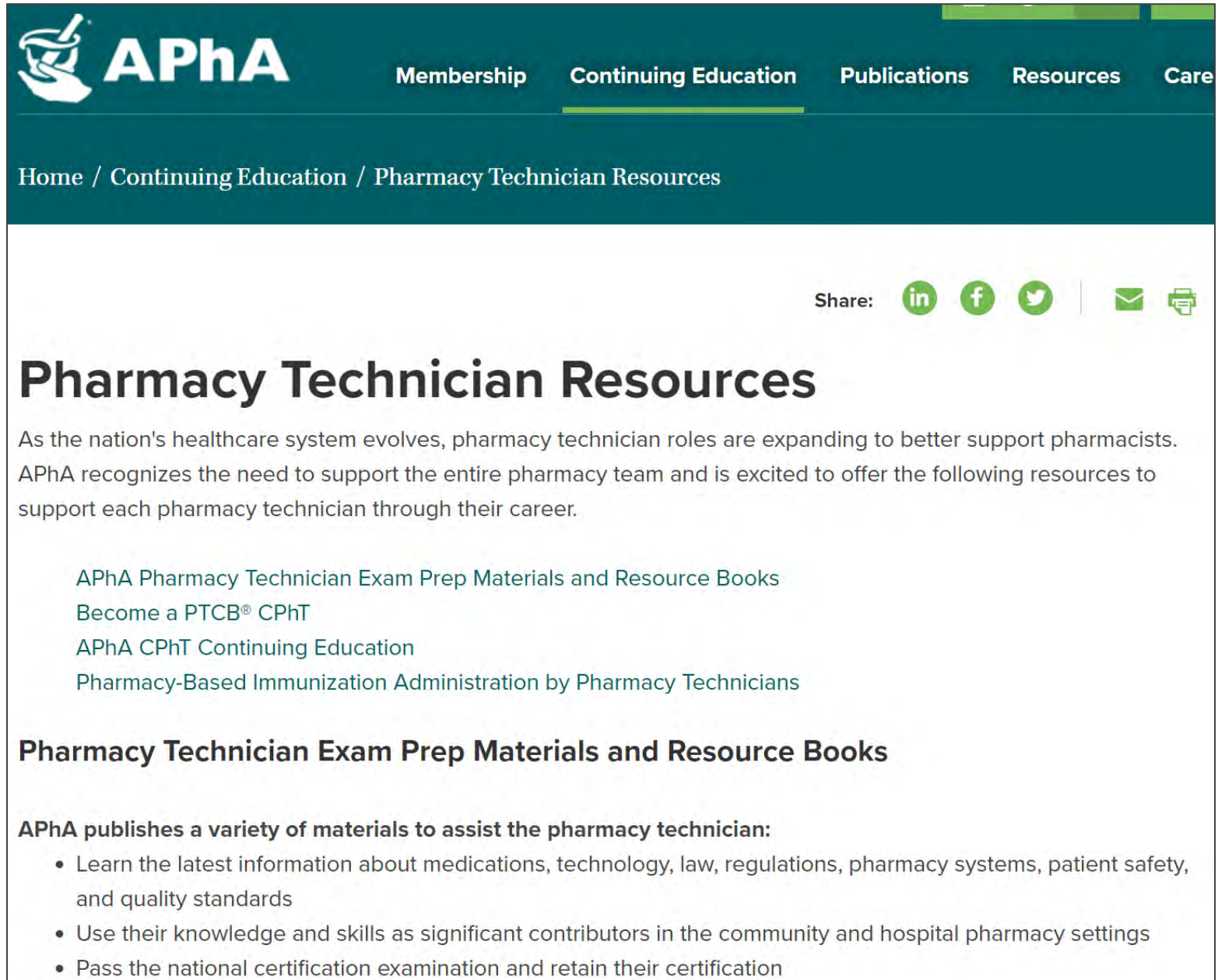


## NEW REGULATIONS EXPECTED SOON....



# Check out APhA's Pharmacy Technician Resources -

<https://www.pharmacist.com/pharmacy-technician-resources>








The screenshot shows the APhA website's Pharmacy Technician Resources page. The header features the APhA logo and navigation links for Membership, Continuing Education (which is highlighted), Publications, Resources, and Care. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Continuing Education / Pharmacy Technician Resources'. On the right side, there are social media share icons for LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter, along with email and print icons. The main heading is 'Pharmacy Technician Resources'. The introductory text states: 'As the nation's healthcare system evolves, pharmacy technician roles are expanding to better support pharmacists. APhA recognizes the need to support the entire pharmacy team and is excited to offer the following resources to support each pharmacy technician through their career.' Below this, a list of resources is provided: 'APhA Pharmacy Technician Exam Prep Materials and Resource Books', 'Become a PTCB® CPhT', 'APhA CPhT Continuing Education', and 'Pharmacy-Based Immunization Administration by Pharmacy Technicians'. A sub-heading 'Pharmacy Technician Exam Prep Materials and Resource Books' is followed by the text 'APhA publishes a variety of materials to assist the pharmacy technician:' and a bulleted list of three points: 'Learn the latest information about medications, technology, law, regulations, pharmacy systems, patient safety, and quality standards', 'Use their knowledge and skills as significant contributors in the community and hospital pharmacy settings', and 'Pass the national certification examination and retain their certification'.

**APhA**

Membership Continuing Education Publications Resources Care

Home / Continuing Education / Pharmacy Technician Resources

Share:    |  

## Pharmacy Technician Resources

As the nation's healthcare system evolves, pharmacy technician roles are expanding to better support pharmacists. APhA recognizes the need to support the entire pharmacy team and is excited to offer the following resources to support each pharmacy technician through their career.

- APhA Pharmacy Technician Exam Prep Materials and Resource Books
- Become a PTCB® CPhT
- APhA CPhT Continuing Education
- Pharmacy-Based Immunization Administration by Pharmacy Technicians

### Pharmacy Technician Exam Prep Materials and Resource Books

**APhA publishes a variety of materials to assist the pharmacy technician:**

- Learn the latest information about medications, technology, law, regulations, pharmacy systems, patient safety, and quality standards
- Use their knowledge and skills as significant contributors in the community and hospital pharmacy settings
- Pass the national certification examination and retain their certification

# APhA's continuing education offerings related to COVID-19 listed in one place!

## Education During COVID-19



APhA's Education During COVID-19 is a library of approved CPE for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

### [APhA Education During COVID-19: October 2020 ACIP Immunization Update \(November 10\)](#)

Learn the latest immunization recommendations as discussed during the August and October 2020 ACIP Meetings and recent updates pertaining to COVID-19. **(CPE)**

### [APhA Education During COVID-19: COVID-19 Testing Models \(November 5\)](#)

CE is now available for this resource! Determine the best testing model for your practice in this interactive, self-paced learning module. **(CPE)**

### [APhA Education During COVID-19: Adult and Adolescent Immunization Schedules \(October 27\)](#)

Become more knowledgeable about the adult and adolescent immunization catch-up schedules and guidance from the CDC to protect individuals from vaccine-preventable diseases due to the hesitancy brought by COVID-19. **(CPE)**

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

# Post on **ENGAGE**

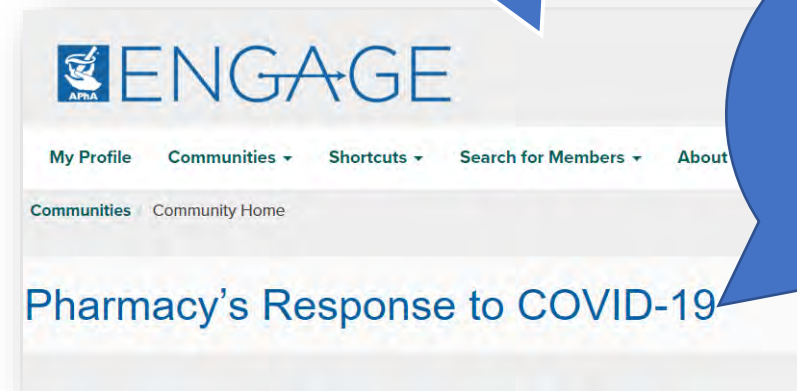
## *Pharmacy's Response to COVID-19*

**POST** your questions

**SHARE** your lessons learned

**SUPPORT** your colleagues

**ACCESS** the latest information



How are you  
advancing the  
technician's role in  
your practice?

Are your  
technicians  
providing  
childhood  
vaccines?

## Weekly Open Forum Webinars



**No webinar next week – Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Join us Thursday, December 3rd, from 1-2pm ET**

Today's webinar recording and slides will be available within 24hrs

<https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/weekly-webinars>