
STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

- Expressly provides that the State Board of Pharmacy is authorized to refuse to grant a registration certificate to operate as a wholesale distributor of dangerous drugs.
- Requires certain prescribers to hold a license as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs for actions involving drugs that are (1) compounded or used for compounding or (2) controlled substances containing buprenorphine used for treating drug dependence or addiction.
- Requires the Board to provide Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) information to the Director of Health for duties related to the Ohio Violent Death Reporting System.
- Requires the Board to provide to a Medicaid managed care organization's pharmacy director information from OARRS relating to enrolled Medicaid recipients.
- Repeals a provision under which a prescriber or pharmacist who provides OARRS information to a patient or patient's personal representative is not subject to the prohibition against disseminating OARRS information.
- Increases to three years (from two) the amount of time that information collected in OARRS is to be retained.

Dangerous drug distributor licensure

(R.C. 4729.51, 4729.53, 4729.541, and 4729.56)

Refusal to grant registration certificate

The act expressly provides that the State Board of Pharmacy is authorized to refuse to grant a registration certificate to operate as a wholesale distributor of dangerous drugs. Ohio law requires the registration in order to sell prescription drugs at wholesale. Under the act, the Board may refuse to grant a registration certificate on the same grounds that continuing law permits the Board to refuse to renew a certificate.

License required for certain prescribers

The act requires a prescriber who does not practice in the form of one of a number of business entities specified in continuing law to hold a license as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs as a condition of being authorized to possess and distribute (including authorization to personally furnish) either of the



following: (1) compounded drugs or drugs used for compounding or (2) drugs containing buprenorphine used for treating drug dependence or addiction.

OARRS information

(R.C. 4729.80, 4729.82, 4729.84, and 4729.86)

OARRS, the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System, is the drug database established and maintained by the State Board of Pharmacy. Rules adopted by the Board require that when a reported drug (a controlled substance) is dispensed by a pharmacy or personally furnished by a dentist, optometrist, or physician to an outpatient, this information must be reported to OARRS on a daily basis.

The act increases to three years (from two) the amount of time that information collected in OARRS must be retained in the database. In a corresponding change, the act increases to three years (from two) the amount of time that information identifying a patient may be retained in OARRS before that information must be destroyed. Under continuing law, information that identifies a patient may be retained in OARRS for a longer period of time if a law enforcement agency or other specified government entity requests that the information continue to be retained.

Continuing law requires or authorizes the Board to provide information from OARRS to specified individuals. These individuals are prohibited from disseminating that information, except in limited circumstances. The act repeals a provision under which a prescriber or pharmacist who provides OARRS information to a patient or patient's personal representative is not subject to the prohibition on disseminating OARRS information.

Information for violent death reporting

The act requires the Board, on receipt of a request from the Director of Health, to provide to the Director information from OARRS relating to the duties of the Director or the Department of Health in implementing the Ohio Violent Death Reporting System (OH-VDRS). OH-VDRS is a reporting system that collects information from multiple sources in an attempt to better understand the circumstances surrounding violent deaths.¹³⁶

Information for Medicaid managed care

The act requires the Board, on receipt of a request from a pharmacy director of a Medicaid managed care organization that has entered into a contract with the Ohio

¹³⁶ Ohio Department of Health, *Ohio Violent Death Reporting System (OH-VDRS)*, available at www.healthy.ohio.gov/vipp/ohvdrs.aspx.



Department of Medicaid (ODM) and a data security agreement with the Board, to provide to the director information from OARRS relating to a Medicaid recipient enrolled in the organization. Under the act, the information provided from OARRS includes information related to prescriptions for the recipient that were not covered or reimbursed under a program administered by ODM. Continuing law requires the Board to provide OARRS information to a medical director of the Medicaid managed care organization.

