

Kentucky Immunization Laws

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Disclosure

I have nothing to disclose.



Objectives

- Describe the immunization laws in Kentucky
- Explain the National Vaccination requirements
- Discuss commonly asked questions



KRS 315.010(21)

- “Practice of pharmacy” means . . . Administration of medications or biologics in the course of dispensing or maintaining a prescription drug order;



KRS 315.010(21)

- Meaning a pharmacist may administer an immunization or any other medication pursuant to a patient specific prescription.



KRS 315.010(21)

- “Practice of pharmacy” means . . . The administration of adult immunization pursuant to prescriber-approved protocols;



KRS 315.010(21)

- “Practice of pharmacy” means . . . The administration of influenza vaccines to individuals nine (9) to thirteen(13) years of age pursuant to prescriber-approved protocols with the consent of a parent or guardian;



KRS 315.010(21)

- “Practice of pharmacy” means . . . The administration of immunizations to individuals fourteen (14) to seventeen (17) years of age pursuant to prescriber-approved protocols with the consent of a parent or guardian;



KRS 315.010(21)

- “Practice of pharmacy” means . . . The administration of immunizations to a child as defined in KRS 214.032; pursuant to protocols as authorized by KRS 315.500;



KRS 214.032

- The term “child” means a person under eighteen (18) years of age.



KRS 315.500

- Emergency authority for pharmacists during state of emergency (1)(b) – Administer immunizations to children pursuant to protocols established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, or the National Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices or determined to be appropriate by the commissioner of public health/designee.



Summary

- Any vaccination for any age pursuant to a patient specific prescription
- Prescriber-approved protocols:
 - Adult immunizations
 - Flu vaccines for 9-13 y.o. (consent)
 - Immunizations for 14-17 y.o. (consent)
 - Declared emergencies



National Vaccine Requirements

- Vaccine Information Statements – information sheets produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that explain both benefits and risks to adults and legal representatives of children.



Vaccine Information Statements

- The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (Federal Law) requires a health care provider to give a copy of the current VIS to an adult patient or child's legal representative for certain vaccines.



Vaccine Information Statements

- Required for the following vaccines:
 - Diphtheria
 - Tetanus
 - Pertussis
 - Measles
 - Mumps
 - Rubella
 - Polio
 - Hepatitis A
 - *Haemophilus influenzae* type b
 - Influenza
 - Pneumococcal conjugate
 - Meningococcal rotavirus
 - Human papillomavirus (HPV)
 - Varicella (chickenpox only)
 - Hepatitis B



Vaccine Information Statements

- Download from the CDC at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/index.html
- Download from the Immunization Action Coalition at www.immunize.org/vis
- State or local health department



Vaccine Information Statements

- VISs are given:
 - Prior to vaccination (and prior to each dose of a multi-dose series);
 - Regardless of the age of the patient;
 - Regardless of the healthcare setting.



Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS)

- Sponsored by the CDC and FDA
 - Request health care providers to report all significant events including vaccine errors (voluntary)
- Adult and child vaccine events
- Receives about 30,000 reports per year
 - Mild reactions – fever, local reactions, crying, irritability.
- Can report electronically



VAERS

- Detects new, unusual, or rare vaccine adverse events; monitors increases in known adverse events; identifies potential patient risk factors for particular types of adverse events; identifies vaccine lots with increased numbers or types of reported adverse events; and assesses the safety of newly licensed vaccines.



Vaccine Storage

- CDC Best Practices for Refrigeration
 - Range 36 F to 46 F
 - Ideal temperature 40 F
 - Recorded twice daily
 - Beginning of the day and end of the day
 - Take action if out of range
 - Thermometer will record max and min



Vaccine Storage

- CDC Best Practices for Freezer
 - Range -58 F to 5 F
 - Recorded twice daily
 - Beginning of the day and end of the day
 - Take action if out of range
 - Thermometer will record max and min



FAQs

- What training does a pharmacist have to have in Kentucky to administer immunizations?



Answer

- Kentucky law does not specify that a pharmacist must be trained in order to administer immunizations, however, the Board expects pharmacists to obtain the knowledge required.



FAQs

- I was trained to administer immunizations when I was in pharmacy school 10 years ago, do I have to take a refresher course?



Answer

- Kentucky law does not specify that a pharmacist must update his/her immunization training, however, the Board expects pharmacists to be competent when administering immunizations.



FAQs

- Can I give an influenza vaccination to a 6 year old child?



Answer

- Yes, if the pharmacist has a patient specific prescription.



FAQs

- Is flu the only vaccine I can give as a pharmacist?



Answer

- No, a pharmacist may administer:
 - Any immunization pursuant to a patient specific prescription, or
 - Pursuant to a prescriber approved protocol:
 - Adult immunizations
 - Influenza vaccine to 9 to 13 year olds with parent/guardian consent
 - Immunizations to 14 to 17 year olds with parent/guardian consent
 - In Governor declared emergencies



FAQs

- Is a private counseling room required to for a pharmacist to administer an immunization?



Answer

- No a private counseling room is not required.



FAQs

- Can a technician fill out the paperwork required before the immunization is administered?



Answer

- Yes, a technician can fill out the paperwork but a technician may not administer (even if the technician is also a registered nurse).



FAQs

- Can an intern administer immunizations?



Answer

- Yes, as long as the pharmacist is comfortable with the intern administering.
- Per 201 KAR 2:095, a pharmacist intern:
 - Shall perform professional acts within the practice of pharmacy under the immediate supervision and direction of a pharmacist.
 - Who has successfully completed his first professional year coursework may at the discretion of the supervising pharmacist engage in delegated acts of professional practice under general supervision.
 - A pharmacist shall be responsible for all the actions of the pharmacist intern.



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