

CHAPTER 254

AN ACT concerning administration of vaccines by pharmacists and amending P.L.2003, c.280.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 24 of P.L.2003, c.280 (C.45:14-63) is amended to read as follows:

C.45:14-63 Administration of prescription medication directly to patient, immunizations.

24. a. No pharmacist shall administer a prescription medication directly to a patient without appropriate education or certification, as determined by the board in accordance with the requirements set forth in the rules jointly promulgated by the board and the State Board of Medical Examiners. Such medication shall only be for the treatment of a disease for which a nationally certified program is in effect, or as determined by the board, and only if utilized for the treatment of that disease for which the medication is prescribed or indicated or for which the collaborative drug therapy management permits.

b. (1) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a pharmacist may administer drugs to a patient 18 years of age or older, provided the pharmacist is appropriately educated and qualified, as determined by the board in accordance with the requirements set forth in the rules jointly promulgated by the board and the State Board of Medical Examiners, and provided the drugs are administered under any one of the following conditions:

(a) pursuant to a prescription by an authorized prescriber for a vaccine and related emergency medications;

(b) in immunization programs implemented pursuant to an authorized prescriber's standing order for the vaccine and related emergency medications; or

(c) in immunization programs and programs sponsored by governmental agencies that are not patient specific.

(2) A pharmacist may administer an influenza vaccine to a patient who is seven years of age or older. For a patient who is under 18 years of age, a pharmacist shall not administer a vaccine except with the permission of the patient's parent or legal guardian. For a patient who is under 12 years of age, a pharmacist shall not administer a vaccine unless pursuant to a prescription by an authorized prescriber. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require a patient 12 years of age or older to obtain a prescription for an influenza vaccine.

2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month next following the date of enactment, except that the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy and the State Board of Medical Examiners may take such anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as may be necessary for the implementation of this act.

Approved January 17, 2014.