



South Dakota Board of Pharmacy
South Dakota Department of Health
3701 W. 49TH ST, SUITE 204 ♦ SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106
(605) 362-2737 ♦ Fax: 362-2738

Policy Statement on Immunizations

ARSD 20:51:28 outlines the authority and requirements for the administration of Influenza vaccines by pharmacists. The Board of Pharmacy recognizes that pharmacists are highly trained with regard to immunizations of all types and further rule change is needed to include non-influenza immunizations. Further, the Board recognizes that retail pharmacists provide the most convenient access point to medical care and access to immunizations is a critical component of public health and safety.

Under the current rules, pharmacists may administer Influenza vaccine if properly trained and with the required Board immunization authorization. Generally it has been felt that all other immunizations require a prescription from the prescriber. This is not the case. SDCL 36-11-19.1 allows pharmacists to “perform drug administration pursuant to a prescription drug order” and allows pharmacists to “initiate or modify drug therapy by protocol or other legal authority established and approved within a licensed health care facility or by a practitioner authorized to prescribe drugs”.

There is no prohibition on vaccinating with all types of vaccines if they are either on a prescription or included within a signed prescriber’s protocol. The protocol must be created and signed by the prescriber and pharmacist and should be valid for a period of time not to exceed two years. The protocol should follow ACIP Guidelines <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html> and be sent to the Board office for review after it has been signed by the prescriber and the pharmacists and should include:

1. Identity of the participating physician and the pharmacist;
2. Identity of the immunization or vaccination which may be administered;
3. Identity of the patient or groups of patients (age) to receive the authorized immunization or vaccination;
4. Identity of the authorized routes and sites of administration allowed;
5. Identity of the course of action the pharmacist shall follow in the case of reactions following administration;
6. Identity of the location at which the pharmacist may administer the authorized immunization or vaccination; and
7. Recordkeeping and reporting requirements per ARSD 20:51:28:05 and procedures for notification of administration.
8. The statement that all immunizations will be reported to the South Dakota Immunization and Information System (SDIIS) within 14 days after administration.

The SD Board of Pharmacy would like to encourage pharmacists administering vaccines, pursuant to a prescription or protocol, to review patients’ eligibility on the SDIIS prior to administration. Unfortunately providers are not required to enter adult vaccines into the SDIIS. For pharmacists to get enrolled with SDIIS to report immunizations, contact Tammy LeBeau, SDIIS Coordinator, at 605-773-4783.