



# North Carolina Board of Pharmacy

PO Box 459, Carrboro, NC 27510-0459  
 Carrboro Plaza Shopping Center, Hwy 54 Bypass  
 Suite 104-C, Carrboro, NC 27510-1597  
 Tel: 919/942-4454 Fax: 919/967-5757  
 Web site: [www.ncbop.org](http://www.ncbop.org)

Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

## Item 1168 – Important Renewal News

Again this renewal year, the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy staff will utilize electronic renewal of licenses to practice pharmacy as the primary method of renewing individual active pharmacists who reside in the US. This is a secure site and all personal and financial data is protected. **No** pharmacist renewal applications will be automatically mailed as in the past. The renewal process begins on November 1 and pharmacists should go to the Board's Web site, [www.ncbop.org](http://www.ncbop.org), and follow the prompts under "Electronic Renewals." An immediate confirmation is available for online renewals. Certificates will be mailed within approximately three days of the online process. Deborah Stump at the Board office ([dstump@ncbop.org](mailto:dstump@ncbop.org)) is the "go-to" person for this task.

Beginning this renewal year, the electronic process will also be used for renewing Devices and Medical Equipment (DME) permits, and the "go-to" person for this task is Melanie Hawn ([mhawn@ncbop.org](mailto:mhawn@ncbop.org)).

The paper process for renewal is still available for pharmacists and DME permit holders, however, the processing time is expected to take at least three to four weeks for these applications. You may download renewal forms from the Board's Web site at [www.ncbop.org](http://www.ncbop.org) in the "Downloadable Forms" section on the home page. Renewals of permits to operate pharmacies will be handled on a paper basis until a procedure is developed in the future for electronic renewals.

## Item 169 – Disciplinary Actions

### June - July 2002

Suspension With Stay Order: 2; Letter of Concern: 3; Letter of Warning: 6

Complete information regarding cases can be found on the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy's Web site at [www.ncbop.org](http://www.ncbop.org) in the "Disciplinary Actions" section.

## Item 1170 New Rules

The Board is in the process of considering potential new or amended rules on many subjects. A list of the topics follows.

- ◆ .1414 – Drugs Distribution and Control
- ◆ .1505 – Examination
- ◆ .1601 – Pharmacy Permits
- ◆ .1602 – License by Reciprocity

- ◆ .1606 – Requirement of Personal Appearance
- ◆ .1801 – Right to Refuse a Prescription
- ◆ .1808 – Repackaged Pharmaceuticals
- ◆ .1812 – Changes in Prescription Orders
- ◆ .2107 – Ballots; Casting and Counting
- ◆ .2109 – Device and Medical Equipment Subcommittee Representatives
- ◆ .2502 – Responsibilities of Pharmacist-Manager
- ◆ .2504 – Patient Counseling
- ◆ .2507 – Administration of Immunizations by Pharmacists
- ◆ .2801 – Scope and Purpose
- ◆ .2803 – Req/Pharmacies Dispensing Sterile Parenteral Pharmaceuticals
- ◆ .2804 – Responsibilities of Pharmacist-Manager (sterile parenteral pharmaceuticals)
- ◆ .2805 – Labeling
- ◆ .2808 – Quality Assurance
- ◆ .3301 – Registration

The proposed rules are available on the Board's Web site at [www.ncbop.org](http://www.ncbop.org). Public hearings are scheduled for:

- ◆ October 2, 2002, 1 PM  
 Catawba Valley Community College Auditorium  
 (Main Campus)  
 2550 Hwy 70 SE  
 Hickory, NC 28602
- ◆ October 8, 2002, 10 AM  
 The Monroe AHEC Conference Center  
 2000 Venture Tower Dr  
 Greenville, NC 27858
- ◆ October 9, 2002, 11:30 AM  
 Auditorium II  
 Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons  
 3121 High Point Rd  
 Greensboro, NC 27407

The Board expects to consider adopting these rules at its regular meeting on October 15. Please send your comments in writing to the Board office at PO Box 459, Carrboro, NC 27510. Comments may also be offered to the executive director at [drw@ncbop.org](mailto:drw@ncbop.org).

### **Item 1171 – Continuing Education**

Recent events have caused some pharmacists to go into active duty in the armed forces, as many did during Desert Shield/Storm more than 10 years ago. Under these circumstances the members of the Board have instructed staff to consider continuing education waivers for people who are on active duty outside of the United States on an individual basis.

At the same meeting the members decided that academic programs leading to a masters in business administration are not acceptable for continuing education.

### **Item 1172 – Charitable Drugs**

Pharmaceuticals provided by manufacturers through a charitable program or obtained for use in “free clinics” need to be handled in the same way as any other similar item in commerce. In other words, prescription drugs being sent by or on behalf of manufacturers to patients need to be as properly packaged and labeled as any other prescription drug. This process needs to occur at a location with a pharmacy permit in the same way as any other out-of-state pharmacy.

There is no exemption for the packaging, labeling, record keeping, patient counseling, and drug utilization review requirement for these products.

### **Item 1173 – Patient Counseling Detects Mistakes**

Andrea Ellenburg reported an incident to the Board office that highlights the importance of patient counseling. She received a handwritten order for two drugs that looked like orders for Amoxil and Parafon Forte. During her counseling of the patient she learned that the physician intended one of these prescriptions to drain sinuses. In speaking with the physician she learned that the prescriber intended to write “Profen Forte,” and Parafon Forte would have had an entirely different and unintended result.

Patient counseling will save lives.

### **Item 1174 – Valid DEA Number Required On Pharmacy Prescriptions**

The Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) requires Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) numbers on all recipient

pharmacy claims. Providers must have their DEA registration number on file. Failure to do so may result in denied claims.

If a prescriber does not have a DEA number, yet provides prescriptions to Medicaid recipients, the prescriber will need to contact the Drug Use Review (DUR) Section at 919/733-3590. This specifically includes Clinical Pharmacist Practitioners.

The DUR section will issue a prescriber Medicaid identification (ID) number in lieu of the DEA number. The ID number, following the same format as the DEA number, will always begin with a Z (for example, ZF1234567). Prescribers will need to enter this number on their Medicaid prescriptions. This number is referred to as a **prescriber Medicaid identification number** only and should not be referred to as a DEA number.

If EDS Provider Enrollment does not have the prescriber’s updated information, the prescriber may contact the following address: EDS Provider Enrollment Unit, PO Box 300009, Raleigh, NC 27622; Fax: 919/851-4014; EDS: 1-800/688-6696 or 919/851-8888.

An accurate DEA or ID number on Medicaid prescriptions is mandatory. DMA relies on this for effective recovery of third party payments, DUR, fraud and abuse, and the cost containment.

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David R. Work, JD, RPh – State News Editor  
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National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc.  
700 Busse Highway  
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068