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Pharmacist Statewide Protocol

The Collaborative Drug Therapy Management Advisory Committee has adopted the following Protocol for Testing and Initiation of Therapy for Suspected Acute Group A Streptococcal Pharyngitis in Adult Patients as well as a Protocol for Patients under 18 years of age, which is now available on the Board website for review and participation: <https://pharmacy.ks.gov/resources-consumer-info-2/collaborative-practice>.

To participate, pharmacists must complete the following:

1. Complete the training and obtain necessary credentials
2. Review and Sign the Protocol

[Acute Group A Streptococcal Pharyngitis Protocol - Adult](#)

[Acute Group A Streptococcal Pharyngitis Protocol 2023 - Under 18](#)

3. Maintain a copy of the Protocol for 10 years at each location where it is used by the pharmacist. (Copies do not need to be sent to the Board office.)

The Board has also published answers to [frequently asked questions](#) and will update that document with additional information as necessary. Participating pharmacists are required to exercise standard of care in addition to following the protocol in providing services.

New Regulations Adopted by the Board

The Board voted to adopt the following new and amended regulations at its April 2023 Board meeting. The regulations have been sent to the Kansas Secretary of State for publication in the Kansas Register on or around May 18, 2023. The Board anticipates these regulations will become effective on **June 2, 2023**.

Pharmacy Practice Act Regulations

- K.A.R. 68-1-1b. Continuing education for pharmacists.
- K.A.R. 68-1-2a. Pharmacist-in-charge; acknowledgment; notice of designation.
- K.A.R. 68-1-9. Pharmacist-in-charge; responsibilities.
- K.A.R. 68-2-20. Pharmacist’s function in filling a prescription.
- K.A.R. 68-7-8. Records... aka “Scan and Shred.”

- K.A.R. 68-7-11. Medical care facility pharmacy.
- K.A.R. 68-7-12. Responsibility of pharmacist-in-charge in other than a medical care facility pharmacy.
- K.A.R. 68-7-15. Packaging of drugs or devices in advance of immediate need.
- K.A.R. 68-7-16. Labels for drugs or devices packaged in advance of immediate need.
- K.A.R. 68-7-19. Transfer of a refillable prescription between pharmacies.

Controlled Substance Act Regulations

- K.A.R. 68-20-1. Definitions.
- K.A.R. 68-20-16. Records and inventories of registrants.
- K.A.R. 68-20-18. Information concerning prescriptions.
- K.A.R. 68-20-18a. Information concerning prescriptions; recordkeeping; pharmacy prescription application.
- K.A.R. 68-20-19. Controlled substances listed in schedule II.
- K.A.R. 68-20-20. Controlled substances listed in schedules III, IV, and V.
- K.A.R. 68-20-22. Selling without a prescription.

K-TRACS: Prescription Monitoring Program Regulations

- K.A.R. 68-21-1. Definitions.
- K.A.R. 68-21-2. Electronic reports.
- K.A.R. 68-21-5. Access to program information.

Update copies of the Board's regulations can be found on the [Board website](#).

Pharmacist License Renewal Portal Opens May 17

Pharmacist licenses expiring June 30, 2023, are eligible for renewal starting May 17. To renew, go to the [eLicense portal](#) on the Board website to log in using your username and password, review and update contact information and other required items, answer the disciplinary history questions, and complete the renewal certification. Use the secure payment processing portal to submit your payment by credit card, debit card, or electronic check. Online renewals must be date/time-stamped on or before 11:59pm CST on June 30, 2023. All other renewals will be considered late, require payment of the late fee, and are not authorized to practice until the renewal (and late fee) are submitted to the Board office.

Pharmacists are required to have completed 30 hours of ACPE/Board approved CE between July 1, 2021, and the date of their renewal (no later than June 30, 2023). There is no grace period for completion of CE. For ways to reduce your CE audit risk, see the Board's [June 2018 Newsletter](#).

If you renewed online and answered "No" to all disciplinary questions, you can immediately print your 2023 pharmacist license renewal license (NEW FORMAT). **The Board will not print/mail these items.** If additional copies are needed, log back in and print/download a copy. If you answered "Yes" to a disciplinary question, you can verify your renewal has been received by visiting the [License Verification](#) page and checking for the updated expiration date. You should also receive a confirmation email when renewing online.

2023 Pharmacy and Facility Permit Renewal

Pharmacy and other facility permits are eligible for renewal through June 30, 2023. Use the [eLicense portal](#) to renew each permit through an automated process and pay using the secure portal.

- Nonresident Pharmacies (22-), and Outsourcing Facilities (20-) should allow 15 business days for Board review and approval. Once approved, the facility can log back in and print/download a copy of the renewed permit.
- All other facilities may **immediately** print the 2023-2024 renewal permit. If additional copies are needed, the facility can log back in and print/download a copy of the renewed permit.

ANNOUNCEMENT

- If a pharmacy technician has already passed an approved exam, please email pharmacy@ks.gov, fax or mail a copy of the certificate to the Board office along with the pharmacy technician name and Kansas registration number within 30 days.



Erick Axcell, PharmD, owns two independent retail pharmacies in his hometown of Lawrence. He received a bachelor's degree in communication studies and a doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Kansas. He is serving as chair of the Collaborative Drug Therapy Management Committee charged with drafting test-and-treat protocols for influenza, streptococcal pharyngitis, and urinary tract infection. He also serves as vice president of the Board of Pharmacy.

Q: As a board member, how do you see your role in supporting Kansas pharmacists and technicians?

Our most important job as Board members is to be stewards of all individuals practicing in the state. I think the pandemic has exposed some positives and negatives for pharmacists and technicians alike, such as allowing the public to see how much we can offer toward the overall advancement of healthcare. This can be seen in the sheer number of vaccinations that were done in our Kansas pharmacies.

The flip side of this is that some of our colleagues' working conditions did deteriorate as a result of the added workload of COVID-19 testing, vaccinations and folks leaving the workforce. I think this is our biggest challenge and we owe it to pharmacists and technicians alike to do what we can to improve their work environments.

Q: What has been the biggest surprise to you since joining the Board?

The biggest surprise I have experienced is the volume of work the Board staff does to support the practice of pharmacy in our state. Before joining, I had no idea how much it takes to keep something like K-TRACS operating behind the scenes or how much time it takes to process all of the license renewals every year. The amount of people working for the Board has expanded the past few years to take on the expanded role the Board plays, and I am proud that we have allowed our Executive Director to institute these changes.

Nobody notices if something is running smoothly, they only notice when it is not, and I think everyone at the Board office should get more recognition than they do for the efforts they put in for Kansas pharmacists and keeping everything running smoothly.

Q: What energizes you about the practice of pharmacy today?

Coming out of the pandemic, the practice of pharmacy in our state has started to change exponentially, from being allowed to test and treat for certain conditions in the near future to the expanded role pharmacists and, hopefully, technicians are going to play in vaccinations. Pharmacists can bring a lot to the table in the practice of healthcare, and I hope our roles can continue to expand toward provider status and some of the roles pharmacists play in other states around the country. I'm excited to be on the Board during this time of progress and cannot wait to see what the future brings.

Board Members Reappointed

The Board is pleased to announce Governor Laura Kelly's reappointment of Terica Gatewood, PharmD, and Tiffany Strohmeyer, PharmD, to the Board. They will serve a four-year term, ending in 2027. Gatewood currently serves as the Board's president, and Strohmeyer serves as the Board's investigative member and on the continuing education review committee. They joined the Board in 2019. Learn more about the [Board members](#).

COMPLIANCE CORNER

Narcan OTC

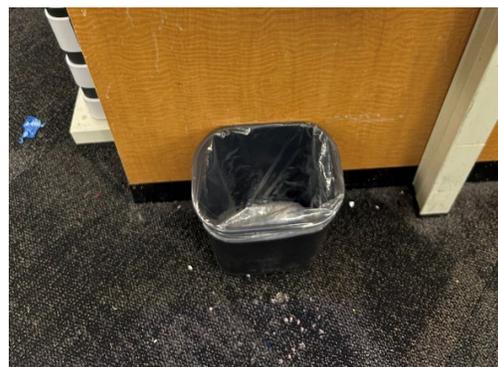
On March 29, 2023, the FDA approved Narcan 4mg for over-the-counter use. The manufacturer of Narcan will have to implement packaging changes before it can be sold as an OTC product, which means the timeline for availability of OTC Narcan is unknown. The prescription-only form of Narcan cannot be sold over the counter but may still be used for dispensing pursuant to a prescription or the [statewide protocol](#). For more information, please see the [FDA's News Release on their approval of OTC Narcan](#).

What Do Your Customers See?

Does your pharmacy look disorganized and dirty? Spring is a great time to give it a thorough cleaning and reorganization. Here are some tips to help you get started:

- ❖ Clean all surfaces, shelves, cabinets, and drawers.
- ❖ Clean all equipment used in the pharmacy.
- ❖ Reorganize your inventory shelves, cabinets, and drawers to accommodate all medication and supplies.
- ❖ Check expiration dates, quarantine any expired or damaged items for disposal.
- ❖ Dispose of any unused, expired, and damaged quarantined medication properly.
- ❖ Check the security of any hazardous medications and ensure they are properly labeled and stored.
- ❖ Remove old signage and tape residue and clear all viewable surfaces.
- ❖ Get rid of unused, broken, and outdated equipment, computers, fixtures, and appliances.
- ❖ Replace stained or broken ceiling tiles and burnt-out light bulbs.
- ❖ Store and maintain paper records orderly and readily accessible.

Taking the time to spring clean your pharmacy will help ensure your customers receive the highest level of care.



Responsibility

It is the responsibility of EVERY pharmacist to keep up to date with the Kansas statutes and regulations for the practice of pharmacy. These may be found on the Board [website](#) and are searchable. For example: If your pharmacy decides to start compounding, then the pharmacists should make themselves aware of the compounding regulations. Another example: If the pharmacy decides to package drugs for future dispensing, then becoming aware of those regulations before starting would be advisable.

If a technician plans to be involved in any practice, they should be trained, and that training should be documented. Technicians are also held accountable for compliance with the Kansas pharmacy practice act.

Readily Retrievable... What Does This Really Mean?

“Records kept can be separated out from all other records quickly and easily during an inspection or investigation.”

Examples of records inspectors may request:

- Controlled substance inventories
- Incident reports
- CQI quarterly reports

These records MUST be available during the inspection. Every pharmacy should be able to access the last five years' records upon request. If your pharmacy files these records at the end of every year, then you will need to dig them out of storage for review during an inspection. Remember, the incident reports require manual signatures.

What to Do When a Prescriber Ceases Practice

What happens to a prescription and its refills when the prescriber retires, passes away, or in some other way ceases practice? The Board reviewed this question at its April 2023 meeting and has offered the following:

- For a noncontrolled substance prescription, the prescription may be filled or refilled until it either expires or runs out of refills. This guidance is not intended to override the pharmacist's ability to exercise professional judgment in deciding whether to fill or refill a prescription in this type of scenario.
- For a controlled substance prescription, the pharmacist must use their professional judgment and discretion in deciding whether to fill or refill the prescription.
- The prescription is eligible to be transferred to another pharmacy. The pharmacist at the receiving pharmacy must use their professional judgment and discretion in determining whether they will receive the transfer or dispense the prescription.

K-TRACS UPDATE

K-TRACS Reporting Changes

Following the approval of regulations by the Board of Pharmacy on April 27, 2023, K-TRACS has released a guidance document to help pharmacies and their vendors navigate changes to how prescriptions are reported.

The guidance document outlines all reporting changes that are required to be in effect by November 1, 2023. These include reporting the sold date and patient's species code, daily zero reports for any days in which no dispensations occurred, and ensuring prescriptions are reported based on the sold date.

The [guidance document is available on the K-TRACS website](#) and has been disseminated to all major software vendors and data submitters. Questions should be directed to pmpadmin@ks.gov.

Reporting Animal Prescriptions to K-TRACS

Effective November 1, 2023, K-TRACS will require pharmacies to report the patient's species code to distinguish animal prescriptions from human prescriptions. K-TRACS receives many questions about how to report these prescriptions:

Q: Do I report the animal's information or the human's information?

A: Pharmacies should enter the following information for each animal prescription:

- The animal patient's name
- The human/owner's date of birth
- The human/owner's address
- The species type as animal

When the prescription is reported to K-TRACS, vendors will be responsible for ensuring the prescription is associated with the human/owner, since that is the person at risk for misuse or diversion of the medication. The prescriptions then will appear on the human/owner's prescription history with an animal indicator.

Q: The prescriber does not have a DEA number. What do I do?

A: This is common among veterinarians prescribing gabapentin. Pharmacies should report the veterinarian's four-digit Kansas license number and leave the DEA and NPI fields blank. Placeholders should not be reported. The license number will be validated against all license numbers registered with the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners. For out-of-state veterinarians, contact K-TRACS at pmpadmin@ks.gov to have the veterinarian's license number added to the database for validation purposes, then report in a similar fashion.

Also, for human prescribers without a DEA number, the DEA field should be blank, and the NPI number should be reported.

Q: How will I know if a prescription is a human or animal prescription on the patient report?

A: If the species code is selected as an animal, a dog icon will appear on the patient report next to the prescription to indicate that the prescription was intended for an animal.

Prescriptions							
Fill Date	ID	Written	Drug	Qty	Days	Prescriber	F
04/17/2019	1	04/16/2019	Fentanyl 12 Mcg/hr Patch	 120	30	De Ent	3
04/12/2019	1	04/10/2019	Fentanyl 12 Mcg/hr Patch	 120	30	De Ent	3

A (Active) - Indicates whether a prescription is active (A) based on the date filled and the days supply provided

Q: Do veterinarians report to K-TRACS?

A: No. Veterinarians are statutorily exempt from reporting to K-TRACS. However, any animal prescriptions that are filled in pharmacies are required to be reported.

Correcting Placeholders in K-TRACS Submissions

When entering prescription information, pharmacies may use placeholders to complete data entry while waiting to receive or verify information. However, those placeholders must be updated to ensure accurate reporting to K-TRACS. Below are some examples of common placeholders seen in K-TRACS submissions:

- Patient address: Unknown, Need Info
- Prescriber DEA: AA1111119, AB1234563, AA9999991

Information regarding the patient and prescriber should be updated in the pharmacy dispensing system when it is received and/or verified, and vendors should have mechanisms in place to ensure the prescriptions are reported to K-TRACS to overwrite any placeholders that may have been submitted initially.

Office Use Prescriptions: K-TRACS Implications

When medication is sent from a pharmacy to a practitioner for administration, the transfer is considered a distribution. The transfer of a prescription medication is permitted from one pharmacy to another pharmacy or practitioner. The transfer must be documented with an invoice record. The invoice record must have the name, strength, form of the medication, the name and address of both the seller and the purchaser, and the date of the sale. This record should be maintained for five years with your pharmacy records.

If the transfer is a controlled substance, the invoice must also include the DEA number of both the seller and the purchaser. If the medication is a Schedule II medication, the purchaser must provide a DEA Form 222 to the seller before the transfer is complete.

A retail pharmacy may transfer prescription drugs to another retail pharmacy to alleviate a temporary shortage, except that the gross dollar value of these transfers shall not exceed 5% of the total prescription-only drug sales revenue of either the transferor or the transferee pharmacy during any period of 12 consecutive months. If a pharmacy is selling more than 5%, they should be registered as a wholesale distributor.

These transfers should not be reported to K-TRACS because they do not involve a prescribed medication to a patient. Pharmacies should verify with their dispensing system vendors that these transfers are not being reported as prescriptions to the K-TRACS database.

K-TRACS Annual Report & User Survey Results

K-TRACS has published its 2023 annual report to the legislature and 2022 user survey results. These reports are available to view on the K-TRACS website.

- [K-TRACS Annual Report](#)
- [K-TRACS User Survey](#)

SUD Continuing Education Available in May

A weekly educational series focused on substance use disorder continues through June 1 for Kansas healthcare providers. SUD 2023 ECHO: Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction in Kansas is designed to improve healthcare provider capacity to implement evidence-based practices related to substance use disorder prevention, screening, early intervention, referral to treatment and harm reduction. The series is part of Project ECHO, sponsored by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and University of Kansas Medical Center.

The series will take place from noon to 1 p.m. Thursdays from May 4 to June 1. Continuing education credit is available for pharmacists. Learn more and register at [SUD 2023 ECHO \(kumc.edu\)](#).

*National
News*

Read the latest news from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy
>> [Read National News](#)

REVOKED LICENSES & REGISTRATIONS

In an effort to provide greater transparency to pharmacists, the Board will publish a list of revocations and suspensions against Kansas pharmacists, interns, and technicians in its Newsletter. The Board encourages the pharmacist-in-charge to verify the registration status of all employed technicians at least twice a year (June and November are recommended). The Board's license verification website is a secure and primary source of credential verification information, as authentic as a direct inquiry to the Board.

Please take notice of the Board's revocation action taken on these licenses, permits, and registrations:

- Alarcon, Homero, 14-18852 Case 23-161
- Bagby, April, 24-17253 Case 23-162
- Baptist, Jessica, 14-11088 Case 23-163
- Brown, Carmalita, 24-111479 Case 23-164
- Coleman, Teresa, 24-113759 Case 23-204
- Cowan, William, 24-118278 Case 23-212
- Dalton, Tina, 14-112456 Case 23-165
- Dhanoa, Kawanjot, 14-102762 Case 23-167
- Dollins, Eryn, 14-111419 Case 23-168
- Elijah, Cynthia, 14-01962 Case 23-169
- Fitts, Virginia, 14-09578 Case 23-170
- Garcia, Ashley, 14-10508 Case 23-171
- Gouda, Julie, 14-08578 Case 23-172
- Griswold, Kelbi, 24-112196 Case 23-173
- Hamour, Lynda, 14-106491 Case 23-174
- Henderson, Sarah, 14-18845 Case 23-175
- Hutchingson, Lavera, 14-17654 Case 23-177
- Hutchison, Joanna, 14-112884 Case 23-178
- Kelley, Sheryl, 14-111680 Case 23-179
- Lee, Kemba, 14-19332 Case 23-180
- Maakni, Zohra, 24-111184 Case 23-181
- Martin, Chauneka, 24-112059 Case 23-182
- Morton, Kathleen, 14-09866 Case 23-183
- Njogu, Mary, 14-18328 Case 23-184
- Odonnell, Sharon, 14-06318 Case 23-185
- Parker, Talayah, 24-118752 Case 23-050
- Ramdani, Kathia, 14-101643 Case 23-186
- Rocha, Maria, 24-111346 Case 23-187
- Sisk, Amber, 24-112267 Case 23-188
- Smith, Brenycka, 14-102120 Case 23-189
- Stephenson, Sheila, 14-18432 Case 23-192
- Tamani, Lyes, 14-107984 Case 23-193
- Williams, Paige, 24-112676 Case 23-197
- Willis, Charles, 14-106440 Case 23-198
- Wright, Talisha, 14-102004 Case 23-199
- Young, Keyia, 14-07728 Case 23-200
- Young, Lily, 24-112991 Case 23-201

Please take notice of the Board's suspension action taken on these licenses, permits, and registrations:

- Jancich, Mary, 1-10638 Case 22-244
- Sullivan, Melissa, 1-12701 Case 23-052