

Brain-Teaser Questions and Cases in Pharmacy Practice Law

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Disclosure Statement

- Donnie Sullivan has no relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies to disclose.
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- None of the planners for this activity have relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose.

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this activity, the participant will be able to:

1. interpret patient care situations related to pharmacy practice laws and rules;
2. interpret cases related to dispensing and recordkeeping; and
3. interpret cases related to new pharmacy practice laws.

Cases

- A pharmacist comes to work and finds all of their oxycodone 10mg is stolen. How long do they have to report it to the DEA?

Answer

24 hours for the initial report and then 45 days to complete the investigation and Form 106.

Cases

- A patient brings you a new prescription for alprazolam 0.25mg, TID, #90 on 4/5/24. The physician died on 4/1/24. The prescription was written on 3/29/24. Can the pharmacist fill the prescription?

Answer

Yes, the pharmacist can dispense a 72 hour supply.

Cases

- A pharmacy receives a prescription written for hydrocodone 10mg/acetaminophen 325mg. The prescription does not meet one of the exceptions regarding the electronic prescribing of schedule IIs. Can you fill it?

Answer

Yes, pharmacists are not required to verify the prescription meets one of the exceptions.

Cases

- Can a registered technician give immunizations? What about a technician trainee?

Answer

Registered Technician – Yes
Technician Trainee - No

Cases

- Can a nurse at an assisted living facility fax prescriptions for residents of that facility?

Answer

No

Cases

- Can a pharmacy fill a prescription written by a physician for oxycodone 5mg for their aunt?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- A dentist needs to do a root canal on a patient. The patient has a nasty cold and is coughing. This prevents the dentist from doing the root canal. Can the dentist write a prescription for a codeine cough syrup for their patient?

Answer

No

Cases

- How often does a pharmacy's recordkeeping system have to be "backed-up"?

Answer

Every 24 hours

Cases

- A patient brings a prescription to the pharmacy for Humira. The patient's insurance will only pay for Cyltezo. Can you make this substitution without calling the prescriber?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- Pharmacies have how long to get rid of outdated drugs?

Answer

1 year

Cases

- You receive a written prescription for zolpidem 10mg. It says “electronic transmission failed, CVS 1245 High St. Columbus, OH”. You work at Walgreens on High St. Can you fill it? If so, what must you do before you fill it?

Answer

Yes, but you must call CVS on High St. and make sure they have not already filled it.

Cases

- You receive a prescription for tramadol 50mg, 1 Q6, prn. There is no ICD-10 code on the prescription. What must you do?

Answer

You do not need to call the prescriber. You must enter “NC” in the ICD-10 code field.

Cases

- A physician calls in an oral prescription for Toprol XL 50mg, #30, QD. The physician says to make the prescription “Brand Only”. Does the pharmacist have to dispense the brand name drug?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- Can a pharmacist in Cincinnati, OH enter into a collaborative practice agreement with a physician in Kentucky?

Answer

No

Cases

- Can a pharmacist enter into a collaborative practice agreement with a physician's assistant?

Answer

No

Cases

- A patient has some metformin 500mg left over from their prescription. Can they donate it to a non-profit clinic under the drug repository laws?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- A patient has an unopened bottle of prescription insulin they don't use anymore. Can they donate it to a non-profit clinic under the drug repository laws?

Answer

Yes. Refrigerated drugs can be donated.

Case

- Dr. Stone likes to use prescription blanks with 25 pre-printed drugs on them. He chooses two drugs on one pre-printed blank he wishes to prescribe for Ken Karson. Neither of these drugs are controlled substances. Is this a legal prescription?

Answer

No

Case

- Pharmacy XYZ orders some oxycodone 5mg on a DEA 222 form. The wholesaler is out of stock. How long is the DEA 222 good for?

Answer

60 days

Case

- A patient brings you a prescription for phentermine 37.5mg #30, one daily for weight loss. The prescription has 5 refills. Can you dispense all these refills?

Answer

Yes. However, the prescriber shall assess the patient at least once every three months and obtain the patient's weight, blood pressure, and heart rate.

Case

- A patient has a compounded cream that has never been used. Can they donate it to a non-profit clinic under the drug repository laws?

Answer

No. Compounded products cannot be donated.

Cases

- Does a pharmacist have to notify the Board of Pharmacy if they change their employer? Home address?

Answer

Yes to both. (30 days)

Cases

- A pharmacist can supervise how many technicians providing immunizations at one time?

Answer

3 in an outpatient pharmacy

6 at an immunization clinic outside the pharmacy

Cases

- An OSU medical resident is working at an outpatient clinic in southern Ohio owned by OSU. Can the resident use the hospital's DEA number with a suffix to write prescriptions for controlled substances at this clinic?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- Sullivan Pharmacy makes an aqueous-based compound for a patient for their eczema. The directions are: “Apply to the skin every 12 hours”. What is the maximum expiration date the pharmacist can place on the compound?

Answer

30 days

Cases

- Can a pharmacy sell syringes to a cabinet maker who is using them to inject glue to build cabinets?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- Do electronic prescriptions for controlled substances have to have the quantity in words?

Answer

No

Cases

- Can an intern or certified technician give an injection to a patient for haloperidol?

Answer

No for both

Cases

- Can an intern take an oral prescription for lorazepam 1mg?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- Do pharmacies have to have a written policy and procedure on food storage in a refrigerator?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- Where is a pharmacist required to report elder abuse?

Answer

County Department of Job and Family Services or Ohio Adult
Protective Services

Cases

- A patient brings you a prescriptions for Adderall[®] 20mg, one daily, #30. You are not sure if the physician wanted immediate release or the XR. Can you call the physician and clarify this?

Answer

Yes

Cases

- Can a physician legally write on a prescription for a patient “no childproof caps”?

Answer

Yes. This is a legal request for non-childproof caps.

Cases

- You mail a prescription profile to Jane Smith. Her husband, Tim Smith, opens her mail and reads her profile. Is this a HIPAA violation on the pharmacy?

Answer

No

Case

- A intern announces over the store's loudspeaker, "Ms. Smith your prescription is ready in the pharmacy". Is this a HIPAA violation?

Answer

Yes

Case

- A Board of Pharmacy inspector comes into your pharmacy and asks for all the prescriptions that you have filled written by a Dr. Thompson for the last two years. How long do you have to produce these records?

Answer

3 business days

Case

- How many times can a prescription for zolpidem 10mg be transferred between pharmacies that share a real-time, centralized database?

Answer

An unlimited number of times

Case

- A physician writes “refill for 6 months” on a prescription for losartan 50mg. Can the physician legally write refills in this manner?

Answer

Yes

References

- Pharmacy Practice Act: 4729.01 to 4729.99
- Controlled Substance Act 3719.01 to 3719.99
- Pure Food and Drug Law 3715.01 to 3715.99
- State Board of Pharmacy Rules OAC 4729:1 to 4729:10
- Medical Board Rules 4731-11

Need More Information?

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