

Vermont State Protocol: Pharmacist Ordering and Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines

Background

The Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Health hereby finds and declares that the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic presents a significant public health risk to Vermonters, for which existing channels for vaccine administration are insufficient to meet public health needs. Following consultation with the Director of Professional Regulation and a period for comment, the Commissioner approves the following protocol, pursuant to 26 V.S.A. § 2023(b)(2)(A)(viii).

Definitions

“COVID-19 Vaccine” means a vaccine, authorized or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (FDA’s CBER), for the prevention and control of SARS-CoV-2, and for which the Centers for Disease Control’s Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) has developed recommendations.

General considerations

Prescribing a COVID-19 vaccine under this protocol requires the pharmacist to:

1. Have training and education in that area sufficient to perform the duties involved
2. Comply with immunization registry and adverse reaction reporting requirements described in 18 V.S.A. § 1129 and 18 V.S.A. § 1132
3. Document prescribing and administration of the vaccine
4. Keep a written copy of the protocol at each location from where prescriptions are issued for, or administration of, a COVID-19 vaccine occurs
5. Provide a copy of the protocol available upon the request of an inspector.

Procedures

1. The US Health and Human Services (HHS) amendments of, and guidance’s about the PREP Act, grants pharmacists immunity under the PREP Act with respect to ordering and administering vaccines issued EUAs, and contains [specific training, record-keeping and reporting requirements](#) to received such protection.
2. COVID-19 vaccinations must be ordered and administered according to the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices’ \(ACIP’s\) COVID-19 vaccine recommendations](#).

Authorized Drugs

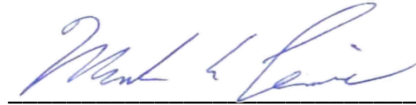
Prescribing and dispensing done pursuant to this protocol is limited to SARS-CoV-2 vaccines approved, or granted Emergency Use Authorization, by the FDA.

Prescribing Records

The pharmacist must generate a written or electronic prescription for any COVID-19 vaccine administered pursuant to protocol-base prescribing. The prescription must include all the information required by Administrative Rule 10.1. The prescription must be processed in the same manner that any other prescription is processed, pursuant to the applicable statutes and rules for the dispensing of prescription drugs. The prescription shall be kept on file and maintained for a minimum of three years, as required by the rules of the Vermont BOP.

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APPROVED:



Commissioner, Vermont Department of Health

Date: 6/21/21



Director, Office of Professional Regulation

Date: 6/21/2021