

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF
THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
LCB File No. R035-16**

April 7, 2016

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [~~emitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 639.070 and 639.0745.

A REGULATION relating to pharmacy; authorizes the sharing of information concerning prescriptions between the computerized systems of licensed pharmacies that are not commonly owned under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing regulations authorize the sharing of information concerning prescriptions between the computerized systems of two or more licensed pharmacies that are commonly owned under certain circumstances. (NAC 639.921) This regulation authorizes the sharing of such information between the computerized systems of two or more licensed pharmacies that are not commonly owned if, in addition to satisfying other requirements, the pharmacies share the information pursuant to a written agreement which sets forth the services which each pharmacy is to provide.

Section 1. NAC 639.921 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.921 1. Information concerning prescriptions may be shared between the computerized systems of two or more pharmacies licensed by the Board if:

(a) The pharmacies are commonly owned ~~and~~ *or, if not commonly owned, the pharmacies share such information pursuant to a written agreement which sets forth the services which each pharmacy is to provide;* and

(b) The computerized systems for recording information concerning prescriptions share a common database that:

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, contains all the information concerning a patient that is contained in each computerized system that has access to the common database;

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, contains all the information concerning a prescription that is contained in each computerized system that has access to the common database;

(3) After a prescription has been filled, automatically decreases the number of refills remaining for the prescription, if any, regardless of which pharmacy filled the prescription;

(4) Automatically stores any modification or manipulation of information concerning a prescription made by a pharmacy with access to the common database so that the modification or manipulation is available to each pharmacy with access to the common database;

(5) Allows access only by a person who is authorized to obtain information from the common database;

(6) Requires any person who is authorized to modify or manipulate information concerning a prescription, before modifying or manipulating the information concerning the prescription, to identify himself or herself in the computerized system by:

(I) Using a biometric identification technique; or

(II) Entering into the computerized system another unique identifier which is approved by the Board and which is known only to and used only by that person;

(7) Makes and maintains an unchangeable record of each person who modifies or manipulates information concerning the prescription, that includes, without limitation:

- (I) The name or initials of the person;
- (II) An identifier that can be used to determine the pharmacy in which the person modified or manipulated the information concerning the prescription; and
- (III) The type of activity concerning the prescription that the person performed, including, without limitation, modifying or manipulating the information concerning the prescription;

(8) Contains a scanned image of the original prescription if the original prescription is a written prescription; and

(9) Provides contact information for the first pharmacist who verifies the correctness of the information contained in the common database concerning the prescription.

2. If a pharmacy is the initial pharmacy to receive a written prescription, a pharmacist shall ensure that:

- (a) The written prescription is numbered consecutively in accordance with NAC 639.914; and
- (b) The image of the prescription is scanned into the computerized system of the pharmacy.

3. If a pharmacy other than the pharmacy that initially received a prescription enters information concerning a prescription into a computerized system for recording information concerning prescriptions, the information must not be accessible from the common database for the purpose of filling or dispensing a prescription until a pharmacist verifies the correctness of the information entered into the computerized system. After verifying that information, the pharmacist shall enter a notation in the computerized system that includes the pharmacist's name, contact information and the date on which he or she verified the information.

4. A pharmacy that fills a prescription using the information from the common database, other than the pharmacy that initially received the prescription, shall:

(a) Process the prescription in the same manner as a prescription that is initially received by the pharmacy;

(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), dispense the prescription in the same manner as a prescription that is initially received by the pharmacy; and

(c) Place on the label of the container in which the prescription will be dispensed:

(1) The number assigned to the prescription by the pharmacy that initially received the prescription; and

(2) An additional number or other identifier that ensures that the number placed on the label pursuant to subparagraph (1) is not confused with a prescription number of the pharmacy that is filling the prescription.

5. The filling of a prescription pursuant to the provisions of subsection 4 shall not be considered a transfer of the prescription.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 453.1545, as amended by Senate Bill No. 459, chapter 26, Statutes of Nevada 2015 at page 114, and NRS 639.070.

A REGULATION relating to pharmacy; providing a penalty for the failure to transmit to the State Board of Pharmacy certain information concerning the dispensing of certain controlled substances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing regulations set forth certain fines which the State Board of Pharmacy may impose against a pharmacist or pharmacy for certain violations of statute or regulation. (NAC 639.955) This regulation establishes a fine of \$100 per day for the failure to transmit to the Board certain information concerning the dispensing of certain controlled substances.

Section 1. NAC 639.955 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.955 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Board may impose a fine against a pharmacist or pharmacy pursuant to paragraph (f) of subsection 1 of NRS 639.255 according to the following schedule:

(a) For failing to counsel a patient	\$750
(b) For failing to maintain documentation of counseling given to a patient.....	750

(c) For an error in a prescription that resulted in a negative outcome to the patient or discomfort to the patient, but did not require intervention or treatment by a medical facility or a physician	500
(d) For an error in a prescription that resulted in a significant negative outcome to the patient or required intervention or treatment by a medical facility or a physician.....	1,000
(e) For an error in a prescription that resulted in or contributed to a patient's death	5,000
(f) Working as a pharmacist or employing a pharmacist to work in a pharmacy without a certificate of registration	200 per day
(g) Working as a pharmaceutical technician or employing a pharmaceutical technician to work in a pharmacy without a certificate of registration	100 per day
(h) For failing to make or maintain a biennial inventory of controlled substances	1,000
(i) <i>For failing to transmit the information required pursuant to NAC 639.926.....</i>	<i>100 per day</i>

2. The Board may impose a fine for a violation listed in subsection 1 that is less than or greater than the amount set forth in that subsection for that violation after giving consideration to any aggravating and mitigating factors that relate to the violator's role in and responsibility for the conduct for which the fine is being imposed, and the unique circumstances of each case.

3. If a pharmacy or pharmacist commits a violation listed in subsection 1 more than once during any 36-month period, the Board may impose a fine for any subsequent violation in an amount that is greater than the amount set forth in subsection 1 for that violation.

4. If a pharmacy under common ownership with one or more pharmacies commits a violation listed in subsection 1, and any pharmacy under that common ownership thereafter commits the same violation within any 36-month period, the Board may impose a fine for those subsequent violations in an amount that is greater than the amount set forth in subsection 1 for that violation.

5. The Board may, as it deems appropriate, impose a fine for a violation not listed in subsection 1 that is commensurate with the severity of the violation.

6. No fine imposed by the Board will exceed \$10,000.

7. If, within an accusation, a member of the Board's staff groups similar violations into one cause of action, that grouping is for administrative convenience only and does not affect the authority of the Board to take disciplinary action for each separate violation.

8. This section will be construed and applied so as to preserve the discretion of the Board to take any disciplinary action authorized by NRS 639.255.

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