

From: Virginia Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology  
Date: May 9, 2022  
Subject: Public Health Emergency expiration



## Virginia Board of Pharmacy

May 9, 2023

Dear Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, and Pharmacy Interns:

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is planning for the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19, declared under Section 319 of the Public Health Service Act, to expire at the end of the day on May 11, 2023. Please be aware of the following information:

### COVID-19 Vaccines

- The [Health Commissioner's standing order](#) for pharmacists to dispense and administer a COVID-19 vaccine, and pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns to administer the vaccine under the supervision of a pharmacist, will expire at the end of the day on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Per [HHS Secretary Becerra's April 14<sup>th</sup> announcement](#), he will issue an amendment to the declaration under the *Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness* (PREP) Act for medical countermeasures against COVID-19 which will extend through December 2024 to pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians to administer COVID-19 to those individuals three and over.

### Other Vaccines on the CDC Immunization Schedule

- Except for COVID-19 and influenza vaccines, per [HHS Secretary Becerra's April 14<sup>th</sup> announcement](#), he will issue an amendment to the declaration under the PREP Act that as of end of day May 11<sup>th</sup>, PREP Act coverage will no longer extend to all routine childhood vaccinations by pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians.
- The [Board's statewide protocol](#) for a pharmacist to initiate treatment with a vaccine on the CDC's Immunization Schedule, or to direct a pharmacy technician or pharmacy intern to administer the vaccine under the supervision of the pharmacist to persons 18 years of age or older will also expire at the end of the day on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- A [revised statewide protocol](#) for a pharmacist to initiate treatment with a vaccine on the CDC's Immunization Schedule, including COVID-19, or to direct a pharmacy

technician or pharmacy intern to administer the vaccine under the supervision of the pharmacist to persons 3 years of age or older will become effective on May 12, 2023.

### COVID Tests

- The [Health Commissioner's standing order](#) for pharmacists to order, dispense, and bill third-party insurance for FDA EUA-authorized at-home COVID-19 antigen and molecular test kits will expire at the end of the day on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Per [HHS Secretary Becerra's April 14<sup>th</sup> announcement](#), he will issue an amendment to the declaration under the PREP Act for medical countermeasures against COVID-19 which will extend through December 2024 to pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians to administer COVID-19 tests to those individuals three and over.
- Additionally, the Board's statewide protocol for pharmacists to initiate treatment with, dispense, or administer tests for COVID-19 and other coronaviruses to persons 18 years of age and older may be accessed [here](#).

Board of Nursing-approved protocols authorizing pharmacists to administer vaccines to adults for immunization pursuant to § 54.1-3408 (I) and the authority for a prescriber to authorize a pharmacist to administer influenza vaccine to minors pursuant to § 54.1-3408 (W) are not impacted by the expiration of the federal PHE. Additional information on the federal PHE may be accessed [here](#).

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