Background & Timeline

Workplace Safety
Role of Pharmacists
Looking Ahead
Cluster of cases of pneumonia in Wuhan, China

First Cases Report
Cluster of cases of pneumonia in Wuhan, China

CDC confirms first case in Washington State

First Cases in U.S. & CA

O.C. confirms first case in California

Santa Clara is the first county to declare local health emergency

County Health Emergency

WHO declares a Public Health Emergency of International Concern

Public Health Emergency

U.S. declares public health emergency

First Cases in U.S. & CA

1/21 & 1/25/2020

County Health Emergency

2/3/2020

First Cases Report

12/31/2019

Public Health Emergency

1/30 & 1/31/2020
First country to lock down as the virus spreads across Europe

Italy Locks Down

2/23/2020

State Emergency
California declares a state of emergency

3/4/2020

National Emergency
U.S. declares COVID-19 is a national emergency

3/13/2020

Pandemic Declared
WHO declares that COVID-19 is a pandemic

3/11/2020
Seven Bay Area counties issue first shelter-in-place orders.

California issues first statewide shelter-in-place order.

U.S. Plan to Slow Spread
U.S. issues guidelines to limit social gatherings and discretionary travel.

3/16/2020

3/19/2020

3/16/2020

3/19/2020
Background & Timeline

• Workplace Safety

Role of Pharmacists

Looking Ahead
“Essential”

Coronavirus: Italy shuts nearly all shops as WHO declares pandemic

Italy is to close all shops except food stores and pharmacies in Europe’s toughest lockdown yet as virus deaths and cases continue to mount.

The Mercury News

Coronavirus shutdown in California: What are the rules

Executive order allows certain ‘essential’ employees to work outside the home

What remains open?

- Grocery stores, farmers markets, food banks, convenience stores
- Take-out and delivery restaurants
- Gas stations
- **Pharmacies**
- Laundromats/laundry services
- Banks
- Essential state and local government offices and services, including law enforcement

A Look At The COVID-19 Crisis From A Pharmacist’s Perspective

March 21, 2020 / 7:44 AM ET
Heard on Weekend Edition Saturday

Twila Boyd, a pharmacist in South Charleston, Ohio, explains what it’s like to treat patients in the midst of the coronavirus outbreak.
Essential... but ignored.

Pharmacists Concerned About Lack of Personal Protective Equipment, Hand Sanitizers for COVID-19 Outbreak

2020-03-18 13:39:00
Aislinn Antrim, Assistant Editor

Are grocery stores and pharmacies vectors for the coronavirus?

Brent Schrotenboer USA TODAY
Published 7:00 a.m. ET Mar. 27, 2020 | Updated 8:53 a.m. ET Mar. 29, 2020

Coronavirus in NY: Pharmacists blast Walgreens, CVS for lack of protections

By Isabel Vincent
March 21, 2020 | 3:47pm | Updated

Pharmacy technician, 25, dies after contracting COVID-19; reportedly had no underlying health conditions

By Alx Chitarkhan | Published 03-27-20 | California | FOX 11 Los Angeles
Grocery and pharmacy employees are 'essential workers' and must be protected

BY JOHN LOGAN, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR — 03/21/20 02:00 PM EDT
THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

How Are Pharmacies Protecting Staff from COVID-19?
By Christine Blank
March 31, 2020

‘We have kind of become forgotten’: Pharmacists need protection during coronavirus pandemic

Alejandra O'Connell-Domenech  2 months ago
Pharmacy Workers Are Coming Down With COVID-19 — But They Can’t Afford to Stop Working

“Someone will come into work sick and there’s nothing anyone can do about it,” a pharmacist says

By AYA KOFMAN, PROPUBLICA

Pharmacy Workers Turn to Makeshift Virus Protections on the Job

April 9, 2020, 11:48 AM

- OSHA now recommends masks for pharmacy, retail workers
- Chains pledge to equip all stores with ‘sneeze guards’

CVS Pharmacy stores in Pennsylvania

An independent pharmacy in Pennsylvania
Everyone for themselves?

Prognosis

Hospitals Tell Doctors They’ll Be Fired If They Speak Out About Lack of Gear

By Olivia Carville, Emma Court, and Kristen V Brown
March 31, 2020, 6:23 AM PDT

► ‘It is outrageous,’ Washington nurses organization says
► Media guidelines are meant to protect patients’ privacy

Health

Nurses Across the U.S. Are Getting Fired for Fighting PPE Shortages

Clashes over necessary protective equipment, social media policies, and volunteering in understaffed regions have led to terminations for many health care workers.

By Katie Way
Apr 21 2020, 10:36am  Share  Tweet  Snap
OSHA Releases Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19

CPhA assembles COVID-19 taskforce

OSHA Guidance

3/16/2020

First set of recommendations for infection control standards and precautions published

CPhA board releases statements supporting pharmacy personnel

3/23/2020

CPhA Statements

CPhA Taskforce

CPhA assembles COVID-19 taskforce

3/24/2020

CPhA Taskforce

CDC Guidance

CDC releases guidance for pharmacies

4/6/2020

CDC Guidance

CDCPH Guidance

CDPH releases guidance for pharmacies and pharmacy staff

5/13/2020

CDPH Guidance
Ensuring consistent protection and control measures in all settings where pharmacists and technicians work is of utmost importance,” said Dr. Ken Thai, CPhA President. “Not only is it critical to ensuring the safety of the pharmacy workforce, but it is essential to the maintenance of vital public health services.”
The California Pharmacists Association Board of Trustees (CPhA BOT) has released the following position statements in response to the current situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic:

**PROTECTING PHARMACY PERSONNEL DURING PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**
1. CPhA BOT strongly urges all employers of pharmacists and pharmacy personnel, and the settings in which they practice, to implement protection and control measures and procedures, and access to protective gear and cleaning supplies that ensure the safety of pharmacy personnel and that of their family members and the public.
2. CPhA BOT urges federal and state government officials, manufacturers, distributors, and health system administrators to recognize pharmacists and pharmacy personnel as “front-line providers” who should receive appropriate personal protective equipment and other resources to protect their personal safety and support their ability to continue to provide patient care.
3. CPhA BOT supports the right of pharmacy personnel to wear self-supplied PPE, including their own standard face masks or respirators, when, in their professional opinion, PPE supplied by the employer or healthcare organizations is inadequate or unavailable.

**PHARMACEUTICAL SAFETY AND ACCESS DURING EMERGENCIES**
1. CPhA BOT urges government authorities to hold pharmaceutical manufacturers, wholesalers and other pharmaceutical supply distributors, and providers accountable to state and federal price gouging laws in selling those items to pharmacies, hospitals and other healthcare providers during times of local, state, or national emergency.
2. CPhA BOT urges government authorities to aggressively enforce laws and regulations against adulterated products and false and misleading claims by entities offering to sell pharmaceutical and medical products to healthcare providers and consumers.

**SCOPE OF PRACTICE**
1. CPhA BOT urges the government authorities to allow ease operational barriers to address workforce and workflow issues during emergencies.
2. CPhA BOT urges payors to reimburse for services delivered by pharmacists, if within the scope of practice and covered for other healthcare providers, and remove barriers to patient access to services, medications, testing, devices, and supplies during emergencies.

https://cpha.com/covid19/
The New Normal?
Rx alert

CalOES Distribution of PPE to Pharmacy

The California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) is pleased to announce that we have been accepted as a “trusted partner,” by the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to order PPE on behalf of our members for distribution by CalOES.
Background & Timeline
Workplace Safety
• Role of Pharmacists
Looking Ahead
Role of Pharmacists

• Access to Essential Services
• Drug Shortages & Stockpiling
• CA Health Corps
• COVID-19 Testing
Essential Healthcare Providers
“We need you…”

“…BUT…”
“Healthcare Providers”?

As the COVID-19 pandemic has reached alarming new levels, our health care system is being strained to the max. Our economy is strained to the max. Doctors and nurses, and medical personnel of all types, are putting their lives on the line every single day to fight this disease and save others. And so are people who are not in the medical profession but in essential services: grocery store workers, truck drivers, drugstore workers, and pharmacists.

- Senator Chuck Schumer, April 14, 2020
Thank you Senator Schumer for the following clarification about #pharmacists being recognized as medical professionals in the fight against #COVID19:

@SenSchumer: “A number of pharmacists have asked me to clarify remarks I made last week in talking about my “Heroes Fund” proposal for essential workers. I know that pharmacists are integral members of the medical field.”

“My aim wasn’t to disrespect that, but rather to venerate your profession as an essential field which should receive premium pay. I am fighting for you, not knocking you! I do apologize if my words did not match my intentions.” #HeroesFund

“Whether it is creating the federal grant and loan programs to sustain your invaluable businesses, fighting for better procurement and distribution of vital medical supplies and medicines, or fighting for pay for frontline workers,”

“please know that I am fighting for you every step of the way. Thank you for all you do to protect the public health.”
California Health Corps

Governor Newsom Announces California Health Corps, a Major Initiative to Expand Health Care Workforce to Fight COVID-19

Published: Mar 30, 2020

Governor signs executive order to expand health care workforce and staff at least an additional 50,000 hospital beds needed for the COVID-19 surge

Medical doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, behavioral health scientists, pharmacists, EMTs, medical and administrative assistants, certified nursing assistants all needed

Governor Newsom: “If you have a background in health care, we need your help. Sign up at healthcorps.ca.gov”
COVID-19 Testing

HHS Issues Authority for Pharmacists

~4/16/2020
4/8/2020

5/6/2020
5/12/2019

5/19/2020
Guidance for Licensed Pharmacists, COVID-19 Testing, and Immunity under the PREP Act

On January 30, 2020, the Secretary of Health and Human Services declared that the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a public health emergency for the United States. The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the lead agency for the federal government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A key component of that response is rapidly expanding COVID-19 testing across America. Within HHS, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health leads federal efforts to support that expansion.

Pharmacists, in partnership with other healthcare providers, are well positioned to aid COVID-19 testing expansion. Pharmacists are trusted healthcare professionals with established relationships with their patients. The vast majority of Americans live close to a retail or independent community-based pharmacy. That proximity can help in testing locations, which is an important mitigation measure. Pharmacists also have strong relationships with medical providers and hospital systems.

Therefore, an Authorization of Jurisdiction under the Secretary’s March 10, 2020 declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act), 42 U.S.C. § 247d-6d, authorizes licensed pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 tests, including serology tests, that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized.

Guidance for Licensed Pharmacists, COVID-19 Testing, and Immunity under the PREP Act

...under the [PREP Act]...issues this guidance authorizing licensed pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 tests, including serology tests, that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized.
COVID-19 Testing

HHS Issues Authority for Pharmacists

4/8/2020

~4/16/2020

5/6/2020

5/12/2019

5/19/2020

Ongoing discussions with the State
CPhA @CAPharm · May 6
Excellent Senate Pandemic Response hearing @SenGonzalez_33 tackling the tough challenges of statewide testing @CAPharm stands ready to be part of the solution.

CPhA @CAPharm · May 6
Thank you @SenBrianJones for asking committee staff to follow up on our request for executive order for pharmacists to test and when that might happen. If not why not? #COVID19testing

CPhA @CAPharm · May 6
It is true that CA needs a “wider network” for #COVID19testing @DrPanMD, @CAPharm agrees and would like to see an Executive Order from Governor @GavinNewsom allowing 6,500 CA pharmacies to perform testing.

CPhA @CAPharm · May 6
Well said, @BillDoddCA, “Why wouldn’t we allow pharmacies to move forward and provide diagnostic tests.” We agree, why wouldn’t we?

CPhA @CAPharm · May 6
Thank you, @iike_mike, for stating “If we are going to be a California for all, we need to have testing for all.” @CAPharm can make this happen today if Governor @GavinNewsom allows #pharmacists to order and administer #COVID19 tests, TODAY.
Jim Wood @JimWoodAD2 · May 8
Couldn't agree more. If EMTs can do this going door to door in New York for the life of me it's hard to understand why highly educated pharmacists haven't been allowed to in CA @CHHSAgency - this could be a huge help in rural CA testing deserts

CPhA @CAPharm · May 8
There are 367 pharmacists in your District, @JimWoodAD2, that are waiting to order and administer COVID19 tests but @GovernorNewsom has not given his approval yet. Let's make California the 27th state to allow pharmacists to test for COVID19, today.

Marie Waldron @MarieWaldron75 · May 8
Our pharmacists should be allowed to administer COVID-19 testing. Why are we not removing the regulatory barriers?

CPhA @CAPharm · May 7
We applaud @GavinNewsom's desire to ensure equity in addressing the #COVID19 pandemic. Community pharmacies are located in underserved areas, and the pharmacy teams in those settings reflect the communities they represent. Remove the barriers for pharmacists to conduct testing.
California’s pharmacies haven’t tested for coronavirus, unlike in other states

Cynthia Dizikes | May 5, 2020 | Updated: May 3, 2020 10:20 p.m.

COVID-19 testing by pharmacies

States
- Authorized
- Not authorized

Source: National Association of Chain Drug Stores

John Blanchard / The Chronicle
COVID-19 Testing

HHS Issues Authority for Pharmacists

Ongoing discussions with the State

CA Senate Pandemic Response Hearing

Governor Newsom issues Executive Order

4/8/2020

~4/16/2020

5/6/2020

5/12/2019

5/19/2020
Pharmacists acting within the scope of this waiver may order [or otherwise authorize] and collect specimens for [FDA] authorized COVID-19 tests... and without coordination with the patient’s primary care provider or diagnosing prescriber.
COVID-19 Testing

HHS Issues Authority for Pharmacists

CA Senate Pandemic Response Hearing

HHS General Counsel Issues Advisory Opinion

4/8/2020

~4/16/2020

5/6/2020

5/12/2019

5/19/2020

Ongoing discussions with the State

Governor Newsom issues Executive Order
We conclude that the PREP Act...with the Secretary’s March 10, 2020 declaration, preempts any state or local requirement that prohibits or effectively prohibits a pharmacist from ordering and administering a COVID-19 diagnostic test that the [FDA] has authorized.
…the challenge continues.

• Federal vs state authority
• Temporary authority vs legislative updates
• Availability of test kits and supplies
• PAYMENT ???
  • Medical vs pharmacy vs laboratory billing

✓ HRSA Uninsured Program
✓ Medicare
? Medi-Cal
? Private Payers
Background & Timeline
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Looking Ahead

• COVID-19 Testing
  • Specimen collection sites
  • Point of care testing

• Immunizations
  • COVID-19 Vaccine
  • Routine Vaccines

• Upcoming Fall Season
Immunizations

• Routine Vaccines
  • Declining vaccination rates
  • Catch-up schedule

• COVID-19 Vaccine
  • 12-18 months?
  • 80% can be vaccinated 7 weeks sooner when pharmacists are activated\(^1\)

• Barrier:
  • Varying scope of immunization laws across states
  • In CA, pharmacists can independently initiate and administer “routine” vaccines recommended by CDC’s ACIP

Is the U.S. Ready to Quickly Vaccinate its Population Against COVID-19?

May 6, 2020 | By Jeff McCombs, PhD, Richard Dang, PharmD, APh, BCACP, Yurim Rachel Seo, PharmD/MS(c), Eric Nguyen, PharmD(c), Christopher J. Limbo, PharmD(c), Jonathon Lam, PharmD(c) and Robert Popovian, PharmD, MS

Press contact: Stephanie Hedt (213) 821-4555

https://healthpolicy.usc.edu/research/is-the-u-s-ready-to-quickly-vaccinate-its-population-against-covid-19/
Upcoming Fall Season

• The ”second wave”?
• Public health surveillance/contact tracing
• Influenza season

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Coronavirus</th>
<th>Cold</th>
<th>Flu</th>
<th>Seasonal Allergies</th>
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<td>Rare</td>
<td>Common</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Common</td>
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<td>Mild</td>
<td>Common (usually dry)</td>
<td>Common</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>Runny or stuffy nose</td>
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<td>Sometimes</td>
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<td>Sore throat</td>
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<td>Diarrhea</td>
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<td>Sometimes in children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Headaches</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Rare</td>
<td>Common</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Test-Treat-Immunize

TEST
- Testing for respiratory illnesses (influenza, strep, COVID-19)

TREAT
- Initiate treatment for infectious diseases (influenza, strep, COVID-19)
  - Symptomatic management

IMMUNIZE
- Influenza Vaccine
- COVID-19 Vaccine
- Authority to administer all FDA-approved vaccines
One Voice. One Profession.
The Pharmacists’ Response to COVID-19 in California

Richard Dang, PharmD, APh, BCACP
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy
USC School of Pharmacy
rdang@usc.edu

Acknowledgments: The CPhA taskforce members also include: Naomi Florea, PharmD (Chief Pharmacy Officer, Choice Care Concierge Medicine); Jeff Goad, PharmD, MPH, FAPhA, FCPPhA, FCSHP (Professor, Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice, Chapman University School of Pharmacy); David Ha, PharmD, BCIDP (ASP/Infectious Disease Pharmacist, Stanford Medicine); Virginia (Giny) Herold (Former Executive Officer of the California Board of Pharmacy); and Linh Lee, PharmD (Director of Health and Wellness/Pharmacy, Ralphs Grocery Company).