

## **Title 16. Board of Pharmacy**

### **Proposed Language**

**To Amend §1707.2 in Article 2 of Division 17 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 1707.2. ~~Notice to Consumers and~~ Duty to Consult.**

(a) A pharmacist shall provide oral consultation to his or her patient or the patient's agent in all care settings:

(1) upon request; or

(2) whenever the pharmacist deems it warranted in the exercise of his or her professional judgment.

(b)(1) In addition to the obligation to consult set forth in subsection (a), a pharmacist shall provide oral consultation to his or her patient or the patient's agent in any care setting in which the patient or agent is present:

(A) whenever the prescription drug has not previously been dispensed to a patient; or

(B) whenever a prescription drug not previously dispensed to a patient in the same dosage form, strength or with the same written directions, is dispensed by the pharmacy.

(2) When the patient or agent is not present (including but not limited to a prescription drug that was shipped by mail) a pharmacy shall ensure that the patient receives written notice:

(A) of his or her right to request consultation; and

(B) a telephone number from which the patient may obtain oral consultation from a pharmacist who has ready access to the patient's record.

(3) A pharmacist is not required by this subsection to provide oral consultation to an inpatient of a health care facility licensed pursuant to section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code, or to an inmate of an adult correctional facility or a juvenile detention facility, except upon the patient's discharge. A pharmacist is not obligated to consult about discharge medications if a health facility licensed pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) of Health and Safety Code Section 1250 has implemented a written policy about discharge medications which meets the requirements of Business and Professions Code Section 4074.

(c) When oral consultation is provided, it shall include at least the following:

- (1) directions for use and storage and the importance of compliance with directions; and
- (2) precautions and relevant warnings, including common severe side or adverse effects or interactions that may be encountered.

(d) Whenever a pharmacist deems it warranted in the exercise of his or her professional judgment, oral consultation shall also include:

- (1) the name and description of the medication;
- (2) the route of administration, dosage form, dosage, and duration of drug therapy;
- (3) any special directions for use and storage;
- (4) precautions for preparation and administration by the patient, including techniques for self-monitoring drug therapy;
- (5) prescription refill information;
- (6) therapeutic contraindications, avoidance of common severe side or adverse effects or known interactions, including serious potential interactions with known nonprescription medications and therapeutic contraindications and the action required if such side or adverse effects or interactions or therapeutic contraindications are present or occur;

(7) action to be taken in the event of a missed dose.

(e) Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in subsection (a) and (b), a pharmacist is not required to provide oral consultation when a patient or the patient's agent refuses such consultation.

~~(f) In every pharmacy subject to the provisions of Business and Professions Code Section 4122, there shall be prominently posted in a place conspicuous to and readable by prescription drug consumers the following notice:~~

~~"NOTICE TO CONSUMERS"~~

~~At your request, this pharmacy will provide its current retail price of any prescription without obligation. You may request price information in person or by telephone.~~

~~Ask your pharmacist if a lower cost generic drug is available to fill your prescription.~~

~~Prescription prices for the same drug vary from pharmacy to pharmacy. One reason for differences in price is differences in services provided.~~

~~Before taking any prescription medicine, talk to your pharmacist; be sure you know:~~

~~What is the name of the medicine and what does it do?~~

~~How and when do I take it – and for how long? What if I miss a dose?~~

~~What are the possible side effects and what should I do if they occur?~~

~~Will the new medicine work safely with other medicines and herbal supplements I am taking?~~

~~What foods, drinks or activities should I avoid while taking this medicine?~~

Ask your pharmacist if you have additional questions.

(g) In addition to the "NOTICE TO CONSUMERS" referred to in subdivision (f), every pharmacy subject to the provisions of Business and Professions Code §4122 shall prominently post in a place conspicuous to and readable by prescription drug consumers the following notice:

Know your rights under California law concerning medicine and devices prescribed to you.

You have the right to receive medicine and devices legally prescribed to you, unless:

1. The medicine or device is not in stock in the pharmacy,

2. The pharmacist, based upon his or her professional judgment determines providing the item:

- is against the law,
- could cause harmful drug interaction, or
- could have a harmful effect on your health

This pharmacist may decline to fill your prescription for ethical, moral or religious reasons, but the pharmacy is required to help you get the prescription filled at this or another nearby pharmacy timely.

The pharmacy may decline to provide the medicine or device if it is not covered by your insurance or if you are unable to pay for the item or any copayment you owe.

If the pharmacy is unable to fill your prescription, you are entitled to have the prescription returned to you or transferred to another nearby pharmacy. Ask about our procedure to help you get an item that we don't have in stock.

~~Any questions? Ask the pharmacist!~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4005, 4076 and 4122, Business and Professions Code.

Reference: Sections ~~733~~, 4005, 4076 and 4122, Business and Professions Code and Section 1707.5 of Division 17 Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

**To Add § 1707.6. to Article 2 of Division 17 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 1707.6. Notice to Consumers.**

(a) In every pharmacy there shall be prominently posted, in a place conspicuous to and readable by a prescription drug consumer, a notice containing the text in subdivision (b). Each pharmacy shall use the standardized poster-sized notice provided or made available by the board, unless the pharmacy has received prior approval of another format or display methodology from the board. The board may delegate authority to a committee or to the Executive Officer to give the approval. As an alternative to a printed notice, the pharmacy may also or instead display the notice on a video screen located in a place conspicuous to and readable by prescription drug consumers, so long as: (1) The video screen is at least 24 inches, measured diagonally; (2) The pharmacy utilizes the video image notice provided by the board; (3) The text of the notice remains on the screen for a minimum of 60 seconds; and (4) No more than five minutes elapses between displays of any notice on the screen, as measured between the time that a one-screen notice or the final screen of a multi-screen notice ceases to display and the time that the first or only page of that notice re-displays.

(b) The notice shall contain the following text:

NOTICE TO CONSUMERS

**You** have the right to ask for and receive from any pharmacy prescription drug labels in 12-point font.

**Interpreter** services are available to you upon request at no cost.

**Before** taking your medicine, be sure you know: the name of the medicine and what it does; how and when to take it, for how long, and what to do if you miss a dose; possible side effects and what you should do if they occur; whether the new medicine will work safely with other medicines or supplements; and what foods, drinks, or activities should be avoided while taking the medicine. Ask the pharmacist if you have any questions.

**This** pharmacy must provide any medicine or device legally prescribed for you, unless: it is not covered by your insurance; you are unable to pay the cost of a copayment; or the pharmacist determines doing so would be against the law or potentially harmful to health. If a medicine or device is not immediately available, the pharmacy will work with you to help you get your medicine or device in a timely manner.

**You** may ask this pharmacy for information on drug pricing and use of generic drugs.

(c) Every pharmacy, in a place conspicuous to and readable by a prescription drug consumer, at or adjacent to each counter in the pharmacy where dangerous drugs are dispensed or furnished, shall post or provide a notice containing the following text:

**Point** to your language. Interpreter services will be provided to you upon request at no cost.

This text shall be repeated in at least the following languages: Arabic, Armenian, Cambodian, Cantonese, Farsi, Hmong, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

Each pharmacy shall use the standardized notice provided or made available by the board, unless the pharmacy has received prior approval of another format or display methodology from the board. The board may delegate authority to a committee or to the Executive Officer to give the approval.

The pharmacy may post this notice in paper form or on a video screen if the posted notice or video screen is positioned so that a consumer can easily point to and touch the statement identifying the language in which he or she requests assistance. Otherwise, the notice shall be made available on a flyer or handout clearly visible from and kept within easy reach of each counter in the pharmacy where dangerous drugs are dispensed or furnished, available at all hours that the pharmacy is open. The flyer or handout shall be at least 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4005 and 4122, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 733, 4005, 4076.5 and 4122, Business and Professions Code, and Section 1707.5 of Division 17 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.