

## Important Information for Licensees Related to COVID-19 Emergency – 4/14/20

As the nation faces this public health crisis, the California State Board of Pharmacy (Board) thanks you for your individual and collective responses to the health care needs of Californians. To assist licensees, the Board is providing a summary of important news and information related to the COVID-19 emergency.

### Declared State of Emergency

The Board reminds licensees of state laws and other important information intended to help provide prescription drugs – including controlled substances – to consumers during a declared emergency. Please click on the links to read the full text of each statute summarized below to understand all of its conditions and requirements.

- California Business and Professions Code (BPC) [section 4062](#) establishes various authorities for the Board and its licensees during a federal, state or local emergency under specified conditions.
- BPC [section 4064](#) authorizes a pharmacist to refill a prescription for a dangerous drug or device if the prescriber is unavailable and if, in the pharmacist's professional judgment, failure to refill the prescription might interrupt ongoing care or have a significant adverse impact on the patient's well-being.
- BPC [section 4064.5](#) allows pharmacists under conditions specified in the law to dispense up to a 90-day supply of a dangerous drug other than a controlled substance pursuant to a valid prescription that specifies an initial quantity of less than a 90-day supply followed by periodic refills of that amount.
- During a declared emergency, Health and Safety Code (HSC) [section 11159.3](#) authorizes a pharmacist to fill a prescription for a controlled substance that does not conform to the controlled substances security form requirements under specific conditions.

### Waivers to Pharmacy Law and Regulations

The Board president has authorized waivers to specific provisions of Pharmacy Law or regulations adopted pursuant to it in response to the COVID-19 emergency. An online [list of Pharmacy Law waivers](#) is updated regularly on the Board's website, [www.pharmacy.ca.gov](http://www.pharmacy.ca.gov).

### For More Information

Visit the Board's website regularly for additional COVID-19 resources. In addition, [sign up for subscriber alerts](#) from the Board to receive news about Pharmacy Law waivers and other important information for licensees.

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