



COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ricardo Sanchez, Public Member, Chairperson
Jason Weisz, Public Member, Vice Chairperson
Jose De La Paz, Public Member
Shirley Kim, Public Member
Kula Koenig, Public Member
Nicole Thibeau, Licensee Member

The Board will review a summary of the committee's work at its April 26, 2022, meeting as well as updates for discussion and action as necessary.

a. Update on Communication and Public Education Activities by Staff

1. The Script

The [current issue of the Script](#) was published in March 2022. The newsletter includes articles on new pharmacy laws, tips for successful COVID-19 vaccination programs, the responsibilities of a pharmacist-in-charge, and strategies for preventing drug diversion. Staff expects to publish the next issue during the summer.

2. Staff Outreach

Executive Officer Anne Sodergren; Supervising Inspectors Antony Ngondara, Janice Dang, and Anne Hunt; and Inspector Noelle Randall presented topics during a prescription drug abuse and diversion training event for pharmacists offered by the Board on March 11. About 500 licensees attended the event via Webex.

In addition, the executive officer presented information about the pharmacist licensure and application process to Loma Linda University students on March 25.

3. News Media

Staff responded to news media inquiries listed in **Attachment 1**.

4. Webinars

HIV PrEP/PEP: The Board launched an online [training webinar for pharmacists furnishing HIV pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis](#), known as HIV PrEP and PEP, on April 6. The webinar is 90 minutes long and includes an assessment pharmacists must pass with a score of at least 70 percent to receive a certificate of completion of the training program, pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, [section 1747](#). In addition, the Board is awarding 1.5 hours of continuing education (CE) credit to pharmacists who successfully complete the training. Board staff have reviewed the initial results, which indicate some licensees are not viewing the entire 90-minute

presentation and instead are skipping ahead to complete the assessment. Staff believes CCR section 1747 requires pharmacists to view the entire 90 minutes of education as well as pass the assessment to successfully complete the training. Regardless of their assessment score, licensees who do not view the entire webinar will not receive CE credit nor a certificate of successful completion. Instead, they will be informed they did not meet the minimum requirements for completion and must retake the webinar.

Law: Staff have developed updated material for the Board's law webinar, including new pharmacy laws and regulations for 2022. Staff will incorporate the material into a new webinar and hope to have this completed by summer. California Code of Regulations, Title 16, [section 1732.5\(b\)](#), requires at least two of the 30 CE hours required for a pharmacist license renewal must be completed by participating in law and ethics courses provided by the Board.

Attachment 1

News Media Inquiries

News Media Inquiries

Board staff responded to the following news media inquiries received January 1 through March 31, 2022:

- January 7, 2022: Angelica Peebles, Bloomberg, regarding pharmacies notifying Board about change in hours of operation.
- February 15, 2022: Candice Nguyen, NBC Bay Area News, regarding the Board's [Workforce Survey](#) and possible links between pharmacist burnout and medication errors.
- February 24, 2022: Candice Nguyen, NBC Bay Area News, regarding numbers of Board investigations of medication errors and numbers of medication error cases indicating patient harm in 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- March 28, 2022: Brea Love, ABC 10 Sacramento, regarding President Biden's Test to Treat initiative.