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**Mac McCord, R.Ph.**

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**Veruschka Betancourt-Whigham**

Manager of AIP Member Services

**Rhonda Bonner**

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**Charles D. Boone**

Member Services Representative

**Amanda Gaddy, R.Ph.**

Director of Clinical Services

**Melissa Reybold**

Member Services Representative

**Gene Smith**

Member Services Representative

## Chairman's Message

I first want to begin by thanking Bob Coleman, Jeff Lurey, V and the rest of the amazing GPhA staff for putting on the 2020 virtual convention. I know there were a few snags over those three days, however, the programs, including the CE sessions, were excellent. I want to encourage all those who were not able to attend, to please try to find the time to watch the conference programs. They were all recorded and will be available to those who signed up for convention till October 10th.

Our AIP luncheon was a HUGE success. 12:00 on a Friday afternoon was the time slot to get our 430+ members to tune in. At last count, we had...hold on...I know you can't wait to hear how many of you actually viewed it...

11. No that is not a typo.

I get it, I actually recorded my part as Chairman as I knew Friday afternoon in a pharmacy could be quite busy. Jeff gave his report on the election results and thanked Amanda for her hard work and, of course, V. Congratulations to Chairman-Elect Kevin Florence and Drew Miller, Secretary.

On a personal note, I was very excited to find out that Drew Miller, a past AIP Chairman, was selected as the 2020 Bowl of Hygea Recipient. Well deserved my friend.

We were honored to have NCPA President Brian Caswell give us a brief report on the national legislative front up in Washington. Brian also recognized two of our current members, Hugh Chancy & Jonathan Marquess, who serve on the NCPA Board of Directors.

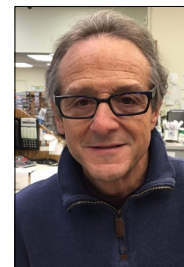
Larry Braden gave a report on INDY HEALTH, a pharmacist run and owned insurance entity, for Medicare Part D. Look out for further information as we get closer to the rollout of the 2021 Medicare Part D plans.

I want to thank Laird Miller, Mr. AIP, for his role as CPESN-Georgia Director. He gave an excellent talk on the benefits of stepping up and joining this organization. Please reach out to Laird for further information on joining CPESN.

It has been a trying six months for many of us and I'm not sure when things will be back to some sense of normalcy. When things were really bad in March & April, we, the independent pharmacy owners stepped up EVERYDAY to see that our patients were well taken care of. We will always be on the front lines, and many of you first responders, to benefit each of our communities.

One last comment on the convention. Please take a few minutes to listen to the inspirational piece on Day 2 from Denzel Washington. One of my favorite quotes was, "ASPIRE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE". I think that's why we became pharmacists and what we preach every day.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your chairman.



*Ira*



Amanda Gaddy, R.Ph.,  
AIP Director of Clinical  
Services

## Medicare Part D Audit Information

The following list of items may be reviewed during a Medicare Part D audit so be prepared! This may not include everything so please check with your PSAO or the PBM's Provider Manual for all requirements.

- **Medicare Notice of Patient Rights — CMS (10147)**

- o If a claim is rejected (reject Code 569), the CMS-10147 document must be provided to patients explaining their right to appeal. The auditor may ask to see documentation detailing the pharmacy's policy and process by which each member receives the document.

- o Link to document:

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/Partnerships/downloads/yourrightsfactsheet.pdf>

- **HIPAA Security – Staff should be trained and adhering to the guidelines.**

**Required Documents:**

1) **Notice of Privacy Practices (NOPP):** Provide to each new patient and post in pharmacy. A template is available on the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services website: <http://bit.ly/hhsdoc1>

2) **Disaster Recovery Plan**

3) **Risk Analysis**

4) **Risk Management Plan**

- **Fraud, Waste & Abuse Training –** Maintain documentation verifying you and your staff have completed the annual training. Training certificates and training logs should be available for review.

CMS Medicare Part C and D Fraud, Waste and Abuse training and general compliance training: [https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Fraud-Waste\\_Abuse-Training\\_12\\_13\\_11.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Fraud-Waste_Abuse-Training_12_13_11.pdf)

- **OIG/GSA/SAM Validation:** Check the OIG exclusions prior to hiring and monthly through the following entities: OIG/GSA/SAM. **This should be documented monthly for every employee.**

1) <https://oig.hhs.gov/exclusions/index.asp>

2) <http://www.sam.gov>

- **Record Retention** o 2 years - State Pharmacy Board

- o 6 years - HIPAA Compliance

- o 7 years - Medicare Part B

- o 10 years - Medicare Part D

- **Mail Order Volume and Compounding Volume**

- **Specific Policies & Procedures** o Inventory Evaluation

- o DEA Licensure

- o Patient Counseling Practices

- o Misfill Procedures

- o Medication Recall Procedures

- o Return to Stock Procedures

- o Generic/Brand Price Disclosures

- o Patient demographics and allergy capture

- **Licensure for the staff and pharmacist-in-charge**

- **Pharmacy Software**

- **Wholesaler information**

- **DEA number and expiration**

- **Medicaid ID**

- **Medicare ID**

- **Fed Tax Id**

- **State tax ID**

- **Pharmacy staff licenses**

- **Pharmacy insurance information**

- **Total number employees**

- **Pharmacist to Tech ratio**

- **Written policies procedures on CII**

- **Last Inventory- How often is inventory taken?**

- **Last Control inventory**

- **Policy on medication errors**

- **Counseling area- Do you have a dedicated space?**

- **How is patient information discarded? Do you have a service or is it shredded on-site?**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Members Please Be Aware

When emailing  
AIP regarding  
pharmacy  
issues please  
include your  
name,  
pharmacy  
name, address,  
phone number  
and NPI#.

\*\*\*\*\*


# Vaccine Providers: Register Your Pharmacy on VaccineFinder This Flu Season

Enroll your pharmacy on VaccineFinder to ensure that your community has the most up-to-date information on your vaccine services. Throughout the 2020-2021 flu season, your pharmacy can share the amount of vaccine you have available. Register today to put your pharmacy on the map.

Click the 'Learn More' link to register your pharmacy: [Learn More](#)

Link for the public to find vaccine availability:

<https://vaccinefinder.org/find-vaccine>



**DEA Guidance Document Portal**

With the constant changes and temporary exemptions/updates, this is a great DEA resource for registrants and health care professionals. Take a look at the link below and please share.

<https://apps2.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/guidance/>

**If you change wholesalers, please be sure to let us know. Please contact Verouschka Betancourt-Whigham "V" at [vbwhigham@gpha.org](mailto:vbwhigham@gpha.org) or 404-419-8102. Thank You**



**2020 ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
OCTOBER 18 - 19

WHEREVER YOU ARE, USA

Virtual Meeting <https://convention.ncpa.org/>



Kathleen E. Toomey, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner / Brian Kemp, Governor

2 Peachtree Street, NW, 15th Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142

[dph.ga.gov](http://dph.ga.gov)

September 15, 2020

Dear Provider:

The Georgia Department of Public Health Immunization Program (GIP), in partnership with many of our private, local public health and other immunization providers, continues to work diligently in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. To continue these efforts, and based on your participation during the H1N1 pandemic, GIP is inviting you to enroll as a GA COVID-19 Pandemic Mass Vaccination Site.

Enrolled mass vaccinators will assist GIP in administering vaccine to eligible populations once a vaccine becomes available. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has asked that all public health agencies begin planning for clinics now, in preparation for vaccine availability as early as fourth quarter 2020. Joining this effort will allow GIP to facilitate an efficient and safe delivery of available vaccine via large community clinics, while simultaneously allowing providers to provide COVID-19 vaccine to their patients in their medical home, eliminating the need for patient referral.

Interested providers are asked to take a quick online survey for the purpose of updating demographic information stored in our Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS) and vaccine management database, and completion of our simple enrollment process. GIP will follow up with a confirmation letter and further information about completing the simple enrollment process. To access the survey, please click the following link or type it into your web browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DMBGGJP>.

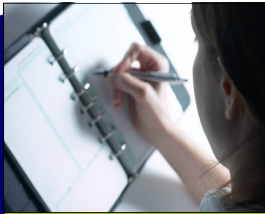
The Georgia Immunization Program thanks you in advance for your participation, and we look forward to partnering with you to protect Georgia citizens from COVID-19 and other vaccine preventable diseases.

Sincerely,



Sheila Lovett  
Immunization Program Director

cc: Kathleen E. Toomey, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner & State Health Officer  
Vikas Kapil, D.O., M.P.H., Chief Medical Officer  
Ben Sloat, Immunization Deputy Director and Vaccine Manager  
Ivan Pereida, Immunization Adult and Adolescent Coordinator  
Kaleisha Blount, Vaccine for Children Program Supervisor  
Leah Hoffacker, Medical Countermeasures Program Manager



## Save The Date:

- ◆ **AIP Fall Meeting**  
Canceled
- ◆ **AIP Spring Meeting**  
TBA
- ◆ **GPhA Convention**  
Thursday June 17 -  
Sunday June 20,  
2021 Omni Amelia  
Island Plantation  
Resort, Amelia  
Island, FL

## JOIN THE INDY HEALTH NETWORK (MED PART D PLAN)

Indy Health will be using MedImpact as their PBM for claims processing. If you are contracted with MedImpact directly or through your PSAO, you will be part of the Indy Health preferred pharmacy network. If you are not sure if your PSAO is contracted with MedImpact, please reach out to them to confirm they are part of the MedImpact Part D network. If you are not contracted with MedImpact directly or through a PSAO, you do have the ability to contract directly with MedImpact for Indy Health.

To begin the contracting process with MedImpact via their portal <https://pharmacy.medimpact.com> and let them know you want to part of the Indy Health network.



# Community pharmacists are the X-factor for COVID-19 vaccines

By B. Douglas Hoey, RPh, MBA, National Community Pharmacists Association CEO

Uncle Sam needs pharmacists. The CDC told states to be prepared for possible distribution of the first COVID-19 vaccines by Nov. 1. The vaccines have been developed at an unprecedented pace in a program called Operation Warp Speed. Since the pandemic hit, a vaccine that would stop the virus, quell the fear, and stoke the economy has been hoped for. Pharmacists are being asked to be critical players in the strategy. Some have asked why pharmacy should spend so much time on these vaccines. Here are some reasons why:

**Pharmacists can make it happen.** The country needs pharmacists to be a major player in the administration of the vaccine. Operation Warp Speed's goal is to administer 300 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine. That's not going to happen without pharmacists.

**The perception of pharmacists totally changes.** Pharmacists have been in the top three of the most trusted professions for decades. But, cynics say, we may be *trusted* but we're not *respected*. Helping cure the country of a virus that has shut the country down for six months? I'd say that might earn some respect.

**We can change the pharmacy payment model.** Some pessimists say that efforts should only be focused on getting paid more for dispensing. While I wholeheartedly agree that pharmacists should get paid more, when it comes to filling prescriptions, PBMs are interested in pharmacy network coverage and shifting business to their own pharmacies. As for all of the other value independents provide? PBMs care about those things equal to the dispensing fee you were paid on the last prescription you filled. Interchangeable. More importantly, the *plan sponsors* who hire PBMs have been brainwashed by PBMs to treat pharmacies as if they are interchangeable. Being major contributors to helping get the world back on its axis opens up a conversation with plan sponsors about the value of pharmacies. Plus, no one said that pharmacies were signing up to administer the vaccines for free. There must be economic reward for pharmacists providing administration services.

**The chains are ahead of us.** The chains tout that they are easy to enlist since a single signature signs up thousands of pharmacies. This is key. Operation Warp Speed is moving fast and has to make decisions expeditiously. Being able to press the "Easy Button" and *-poof!* - having 10,000 pharmacies all required to follow policies and protocols probably sounds good. However, plain and simple, the *COVID-19 vaccination efforts won't be successful without community pharmacists*. That's what the National Community Pharmacists Association said in a letter to the leaders of Operation Warp Speed. Community pharmacists are the X-factor to making sure that millions of patients get a vaccine. What's more, there are going to be LOTS of questions about the vaccine. Is it safe? Which one should I get? Do you remember which one I got the first time? By the way, IS IT SAFE?

Administering vaccines is not for everyone. Just over 75 percent of all independents currently report they are giving immunizations. That's over 15,000 pharmacies but it also means there are about 5,000 pharmacies who choose not to be immunization providers. Plus, the COVID-19 vaccines are going to be controversial because of the speed of their invention and passage through all the phases of clinical trials. And, let's be realistic, they are going to be politicized. While some politicians, media outlets and social media users may spread misinformation, there is a danger that misleading pseudo-science will be broadcast to millions. It will be incumbent upon us as pharmacists to sort through the real science and discern what we believe to be the safest, most effective decision for patients.

That said, tens of millions of patients are going to get vaccinated in hopes of finally returning toward a semblance of normalcy. Destiny is calling pharmacy's name. This is an enormous opportunity for our profession to answer the call.

PS: Finding revenue in addition to prescriptions is what this year's NCPA Annual Convention is all about. You can attend from anywhere, the comfort of your home, outdoors, at the pool, absolutely anywhere! It's virtual and it's going to be new and interesting for all of us. For more information and to register, visit <https://convention.ncpa.org/registration/>.

# 2020 JOSEPH MENGONI, JR. AIP INDEPENDENT PHARMACIST OF THE YEAR

## Jennifer Shannon, PharmD, BCPS

AIP Chairman Ira Katz presented Jen Shannon with the 2020 AIP Pharmacist of the Year Award at her pharmacy in Johns Creek. With her husband Mike's help, AIP was able to arrange the "surprise" presentation. Jen did not know about the award. It was a big surprise! There was even a video made with clips from several colleagues who had sent messages of congratulations.



Jen was very excited and appreciative. After the award was presented, AIP Director Jeff Lurey shared these comments with Jen:

“ON BEHALF OF THE AIP BOARD, THANKS SO MUCH FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR ASSOC. WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT AT THE LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL LEVEL. IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY A FEW SHORT YEARS AGO, I HEARD ABOUT A YOUNG PHARMACIST WHO WAS OPENING A NEW PHARMACY IN THE JOHN’S CREEK AREA – AND NOW SEVERAL KIDS LATER, LOOK AT WHAT YOU AND MIKE HAVE BUILT.

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU -- CONGRATULATIONS!”

Dr. Jennifer Shannon received her PharmD from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy in Richmond, VA. Prior to pharmacy school, she received her Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Virginia Tech. Following pharmacy school, she completed a PGY-1 Primary Care Pharmacy Practice Residency at Grady Health System in Atlanta, Georgia and served as a Clinical Pharmacist in the Primary Care Clinics. Additionally, Jennifer was an Assistant Professor of Ambulatory Care before fulfilling her and her husband's dream of opening their own business. In November of 2013, they opened their own Independent Pharmacy practice, Lily's Pharmacy, located in Johns Creek, GA, named for their first daughter, Lily, with a goal of providing more direct patient care services in the community. Lily's pharmacy is now the preferred pharmacy provider for Emory Johns Creek Hospital and proudly provides Clinical Transition of Care services from hospital to home for Emory Johns Creek Hospital and Emory Johns Creek Cardio-thoracic Center. Jennifer also serves as the pharmacy Director of Pharmacy for Johns Creek, Alpharetta, Milton and Roswell Fire Departments. She is a passionate advocate for advancing the profession of pharmacy forward and serves as Vice Chairman of the legislative committee for the Georgia Pharmacists Association, in addition to being on the Good Neighbor Pharmacy National Advisory board. Jennifer lives in Johns Creek, Georgia with her husband Michael and is most proud of her title as mom to Lily, Abby, Mikey, and Violet.



*To all my AIP colleagues,*

*Yesterday I had the pleasure of presenting the 2020 Joe Mengoni AIP Pharmacist of the Year award to Jennifer Shannon. We were able to completely surprise her as I, Veruschka and Melissa Reybold stood by while I presented her with this award.*

*When we walked into Lily's Pharmacy, we were met by her husband Mike, their 4 children as well as her parents and in-laws. It was a very special moment for her and her family.*

*We have had so many outstanding members of our organization who have had the honor of receiving this award. We are extremely fortunate to have Jen and many of our members represent us at the local, state and national level.*

*Thank you for the opportunity to present the award.*

*Your friend and colleague,*

*Ira*

# Georgia Pharmacy Association Virtual Convention A Huge Success



As many of you know GPhA was unable to hold an "in person" convention. They were saddened to have to cancel not one, but two, conventions. Ashville in June and then Amelia Island in August.

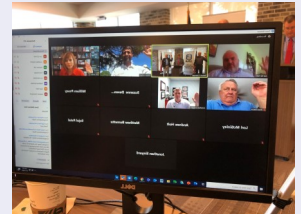
GPhA and staff were not going to let a year go by without a convention. So on Thursday, September 10 the 145<sup>th</sup> Georgia Pharmacy Association Virtual Convention happened. The online event went through Saturday, September 12. There were live CPEs, general sessions, keynote speakers, academy luncheons, and even a virtual exhibit hall. Awards were given throughout the three day event and it ended with a virtual cocktail reception.

Attendees will have time to review all the recorded sessions, visit the exhibits, and can walk away with 28 hours of continuing education. Of course, the staff missed seeing everyone in person but it was great to see familiar faces virtually throughout the event.



Members are raving about the convention. GPhA had several members let them know how much they enjoyed the virtual event and thanked them for making this annual event as normal as possible.

GPhA thanks all those who registered to attend but a special thanks goes out to our sponsors and exhibitors. Without their continued support we could not put on one of the best state association conventions in the country. Big thanks to the following:



## Platinum Sponsors



*Continued on page 6*

Georgia Pharmacy Association Virtual Convention A Huge Success - Continued from page 6



**Gold Sponsors**



**Silver Sponsors**



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- Mike Tarrant, CFP - Integrated Financial Group \*\*
- Nature's Script
- Novo Nordisk
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- Parata
- PharmaCanna \*\*
- Pharmacists Mutual \*\*
- PTCB
- QS/1
- Return Solutions \*\*
- Smith Drug Company \*\*
- TZMO USA, Inc. \*\*

\*\* denotes AIP Partner



**AIP would like to thank the AIP Partners and Endorsed Vendors who supported the GPhA Virtual Convention as a sponsor or exhibitor.**



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770-680-1365

[www.seni-usa.com](http://www.seni-usa.com)  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtvAycAFWS9UIBZ7ZVcNnEQ>

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AIP members receive discounted rates as well as the 30-for-90 promotion on their first return with us: the check for your credit is issued in just 30 days at the same rate as our 90-day program. Call 1.800.579.4804 or visit [drugreturns.com](http://drugreturns.com) to learn more.

1.800.579.4804

[www.drugreturns.com](http://www.drugreturns.com)



## Silver Sponsor



As a convention sponsor and AIP Preferred Partner, thank you for attending the 2020 Virtual Convention! For a special “thank you”, we’re extending our convention specials to all attendees through October.

**Want our nearly world-famous beverage tumbler or the timelessly classic book *Simple Wealth, Inevitable Wealth?***

Schedule a virtual meeting and we’ll mail you one (and maybe even both!)

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Contact Mike today at 770-353-6414, [mtarrant@intfingroup.com](mailto:mtarrant@intfingroup.com).

Check us out online at [www.miketarrantplanning.com](http://www.miketarrantplanning.com).

Planning for your future doesn’t have to be complicated.

It starts by identifying what’s important to you, and finding someone with experience to help you prioritize your needs, risks and goals. With a solid financial plan in place, you can focus on what really matters to you.

Whether you’re a pharmacist looking for strategic planning advice from someone who understands your profession, a business owner who wants to better integrate their business with their personal plan and address key business planning issues, or a family ready to invest in their future, Mike and his team offer real, comprehensive financial planning for real people just like you.

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Our financial and investment plans are goal-centered and independent—built specifically for each client’s unique situation—and broken down into manageable “90-Day Sprints” to help you get from where you are to where you want to be.

If you want help figuring out if what you’re doing will get you where you want to go, schedule some time to talk with Mike today.

And, thanks for attending this year’s convention!

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Rodney Eberhardt  
404-353-7585 cell  
[reberhardt@amerisourcebergen.com](mailto:reberhardt@amerisourcebergen.com)

## AIP wishes to congratulate the following AIP members who received awards during the GPhA Virtual Convention.

**Lance Boles, RPh, MBA**, Hartwell Drugs, Hartwell, Georgia, was presented the GPhA President’s Award .

**Kevin Florence, RPh**, ADD Drug Store, Athens, Georgia, was presented with the GPhA Service Award for outgoing GPhA board members.

**Chris Thurmond, PharmD**, Village Drug Shop, Athens, Georgia, was presented the GPhA President’s Pin.

**Drew Miller, RPh**, Wynn’s Pharmacy, Griffin Georgia, was presented with the GPhA Bowl of Hygeia Award for his over 40 years of service and leadership in his community.

**Nikki Adams Bryant, PharmD**, Adams Family Pharmacy, Preston, Georgia, was presented the NASPA Excellence in Innovation Award.

**Jennifer Shannon, PharmD, BCPS**, Lily’s Pharmacy, Johns Creek, Georgia, was presented the AIP Joseph Mengoni, Jr., Independent Pharmacist of the Year Award.

**Wes Chapman, RPh**, incoming 2020-2021 President of the Georgia Pharmacy Association and owner of Chapman Healthcare Pharmacy, Vidalia, Georgia, was presented the McKesson Leadership Award, NCPA Leadership Award, and the Smith Pharmacy Kaleidoscope Award.

## U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) authorizes pharmacists to administer all ACIP recommended vaccines to children between the ages of 3 and 18 during the COVID emergency.

Today, August 18, HHS amended its declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act to authorize:

“State-licensed pharmacists to order and administer, and pharmacy interns (who are licensed or registered by their state board of pharmacy and acting under the supervision of a state-licensed pharmacist) to administer, any vaccine that the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends to persons ages three through 18 according to ACIP’s standard immunization schedule (ACIP-recommended vaccines).”

You can read the amendment here: <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/third-amendment-declaration.pdf>

This is exciting news as the federal government is recognizing the value of pharmacists and acting on it and GPhA applauds Secretary Azar for this action and is continuing to advocate for emergency action on the state level, particularly with regard to ACIP recommended vaccines as well as forthcoming COVID vaccines for children and adults. Below are the highlights of today’s amended declaration.

### Preemption

Preemption of state law for children between 3 and 18: Georgia law, which does not currently allow pharmacists to order and administer vaccines to children 3 through 12 without a prescription and 13 through 18 only in limited circumstances, is preempted under this declaration as to children between 3 and 18. As such there are no vaccine protocol requirements for children between 3 and 18 and pharmacists are authorized to administer any vaccine that ACIP recommends.

Vaccine protocol requirements required for 18 and above remain in effect: The declaration does not preempt Georgia law with regard to administering a vaccine without a prescription to those older than 18. Remember, under Georgia law, pharmacists can administer vaccines without a specific prescription for influenza, pneumococcal disease, shingles, or meningitis pursuant to a vaccine protocol agreement and other requirements set forth in O.C.G.A. 43-34-26.1.

### Requirements

The authorization applies to Georgia licensed pharmacists and their interns acting under their supervision (intern must be licensed or registered by the Georgia Board of Pharmacy) pursuant to the following requirements:

- The vaccine must be FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed.
- The vaccination must be ordered and administered according to ACIP’s standard immunization schedule.
- The licensed pharmacist must complete a practical training program of at least 20 hours that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines.
- The licensed or registered pharmacy intern must complete a practical training program that is approved by the ACPE. This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines.
- The licensed pharmacist and licensed or registered pharmacy intern must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- The licensed pharmacist must complete a minimum of two hours of ACPE-approved, immunization-related continuing pharmacy education during each state licensing period.
- The licensed pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers vaccines, including informing the patient’s primary-care provider when available, submitting the required immunization information to the State or local immunization information system (vaccine registry), complying with requirements with respect to reporting adverse events, and complying with requirements whereby the person administering a vaccine must review the vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine.
- The licensed pharmacist must inform his or her childhood-vaccination patients and the adult caregivers accompanying the children of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary-care provider and refer patients as appropriate.

Note 1: Some of the above requirements are consistent with those under Georgia law and some are more stringent. By way of example in Georgia pharmacists have to report to GRITS but don’t have to check prior to administering. The above is more stringent, providing pharmacists must “review vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine.” In other words, don’t assume because you have met the requirements for a vaccine protocol agreement in Georgia you are good to go.

Note: 2: With regard to record-keeping and reporting, the authorization references complying with “record-keeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction.” Pharmacists would do well to comply with record-keeping and reporting requirements set forth in O.C.G.A. 43-34-26.1 in addition to any more stringent requirements set forth above.

We will continue to keep you updated with the latest legislative information.

Bob Coleman, CEO, GPhA

## KEEP INDEPENDENTS INDEPENDENT

Please don't forget, if you have a desire to sell your pharmacy or if you have an interest in buying a pharmacy, please contact Jeff Lurey at 404-419-8103. We have been quite successful during the past several years at keeping independents independent. We maintain a list of pharmacists who want to buy additional pharmacies and we also keep a list of young pharmacists who want to own a pharmacy. All information is kept strictly confidential.

### AIP MISSION STATEMENT

To advance the concept of pharmacy care. To ensure the economic viability and security of Independent Pharmacy; To provide a forum for Independent Pharmacy to exchange information and develop strategies, goals and objectives; To address the unique business and professional issues of independent pharmacies; To develop and implement marketing opportunities for members of the Academy with emphasis on the third party prescription drug program/benefit market; To provide educational programs designed to enhance the managerial skills of Independent Pharmacy Owners and Managers; and, To establish and implement programs and services designed to assist Independent Pharmacy Owners and Managers.



Indy Health is excited to announce our webinars to review the Indy Health SaverRx and Indy Health EliteRx Plan information the week of September 21, 2020. The webinar will review the following information:

- A Refresher on Centers of Medicare & Medicaid's (CMS) marketing rules
  - Activities that can be conducted at the pharmacy
  - CMS guidelines related to steerage and how not to violate the guidelines
- Plan Designs (copays/co-insurances)
- Formularies
- Premiums
- Marketing Material Availability
- Ampicare/iMedicare Display

**The plan design, formulary and premium information is confidential information and may not be shared until the Annual Enrollment Period begins on 10/1/2020.**

In order to participate, an online disclosure agreement must be signed. Webinar invitations will be sent out the evening before the webinar.

If you would like to see the recorded webinar please sign up on the link below, you will then be given access to view the webinar.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIA11YutTlqcjqvfBw45VBH0UmfEJbyAEHhmqUN\\_ii2Naig/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIA11YutTlqcjqvfBw45VBH0UmfEJbyAEHhmqUN_ii2Naig/viewform)



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