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**Board of Registration in Pharmacy  
Drug Control Program  
Immunization Program**

**Joint Policy 2020-13: Administration of  
FDA-Authorized, FDA-Licensed, and Investigational COVID-19 Vaccines**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (“DPH or the Department”), through the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, Drug Control Program (“DCP”), and Immunization Program jointly authorize the administration of any FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines in accordance with the Secretary of Health and Human Services’ Declaration under the PREP Act. Pharmacists may order and administer, and pharmacy interns and qualified pharmacy technicians may administer any FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines to persons ages 3 years or older. Additionally, pharmacists and pharmacy interns may also administer investigational vaccines for COVID-19 as part of clinical trials in accordance with this policy.

**Please note carefully, certain allowances and requirements of this policy will terminate when the emergency declaration under the PREP Act terminates. After termination, policy details will be reevaluated.**

Pharmacists and pharmacy interns must comply with all requirements listed in joint [Policy 2020-11 Vaccine Administration](#) and 105 CMR 700.004(B)(6).

In accordance with the authority to order FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines as provided by the PREP Act, pharmacists must generate a patient-specific prescription prior to administration.

Qualified pharmacy technicians must comply with all requirements listed in joint [Policy 2020-12: Vaccine Administration by Qualified Pharmacy Technicians](#).

Requirements for pharmacist and pharmacy intern participation in a COVID-19 investigational vaccine trials:

- a. the researcher responsible for the study must have or obtain a Researcher Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration ([Researcher MCSR](#)) from DCP that specifically indicates pharmacists and pharmacy interns are designated to administer the investigational vaccine as part of the research activity authorized by the Researcher MCSR;
- b. if investigational vaccine is to be stored in a Board licensed pharmacy, the researcher must obtain a Researcher MCSR for each pharmacy site where the investigational vaccine will be stored;
- c. additionally, Board licensed retail pharmacies must also follow the requirements of [Policy 2018-06: Retail Pharmacy Participation in Research Drug Studies](#); and
- d. investigational vaccines must be stored in accordance with manufacturer recommendations and / or study protocol.

**Please direct any questions to: [Pharmacy.Admin@MassMail.State.MA.US](mailto:Pharmacy.Admin@MassMail.State.MA.US)**