



# NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

985 Damonte Ranch Pkwy Suite 206, Reno, Nevada 89521

(775) 850-141440 • 1-800-364-2081 • FAX (775) 850-1444

• Web Page: [bop.nv.gov](http://bop.nv.gov)

## **Guidance on the Authority of a Pharmacist to Issue Emergency Refills in Response to COVID-19**

**May 5, 2020**

To promote patient access to needed medications during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy has adopted the following guidance on the authority of a pharmacist to issue refills pursuant to NRS 639.2394.

This guidance is being issued in accordance with NAC 639.170.

A pharmacist may exercise his or her professional judgment to refill a prescription and dispense a dangerous drug pursuant to NRS 639.2394 without a written or oral prescription from a licensed health professional authorized to prescribe drugs if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The pharmacy at which the pharmacist works has a record of a prescription for the dangerous drug in the name of the patient who is requesting it, but the prescription does not provide for a refill or the time permitted for providing refills has elapsed.
2. The pharmacist is unable to obtain authorization to refill the prescription from the health care professional who issued the prescription or another health professional responsible for the patient's care.
3. The drug is essential to sustain the life of the patient or continue therapy for a chronic condition of the patient and a failure to dispense or sell the drug to the patient could result in harm to the health of the patient.
4. If the patient has been on a consistent drug therapy as demonstrated by records maintained by a pharmacy, the amount of the drug dispensed or sold does not exceed a thirty-day supply as provided in the prescription or, if the standard unit of dispensing for the drug exceeds a thirty-day supply, the amount of the drug dispensed or sold does not exceed the standard unit of dispensing. The pharmacist shall exercise professional judgment in determining the amount of the drug to be dispensed or sold.
5. The pharmacist shall maintain a readily retrievable record of the refilled prescription in conformance with Nevada law;
6. The pharmacist shall notify the health professional who issued the prescription that the prescription was refilled under these conditions.
7. The pharmacist shall disclose to the patient during counseling that the prescription was refilled under these conditions.



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This guidance is in effect until January 31, 2021.

For questions regarding this partial waiver, please e-mail the Board office at [pharmacy@pharmacy.nv.gov](mailto:pharmacy@pharmacy.nv.gov).

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Executive Secretary  
Nevada State Board of Pharmacy