



Nevada State Board of Pharmacy

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DISPENSING PRACTITIONER FACT SHEET-APRIL 2009

The Board's staff regularly receives questions from dispensing practitioners and dispensing technicians, and their staffs regarding what duties they can perform when dispensing medications. This fact sheet is intended to clarify the present Nevada law regarding dispensing practitioner sites.

- A practitioner must have a registration from the Nevada Board of Pharmacy to dispense controlled substances or dangerous drugs to a patient.ⁱ
- Dispense means "to deliver a controlled substance or dangerous drug to an ultimate user, patient or subject of research by or pursuant to a lawful order of a practitioner, including the prescribing by a practitioner, administering, packaging, labeling or compounding necessary to prepare the substance for that delivery."ⁱⁱ
- If the facility from which the practitioner dispenses controlled substance or dangerous drugs is not wholly owned and operated by the practitioner, the owner or owners of the facility must also be approved by the Board.ⁱⁱⁱ
- The **dispensing practitioner** must:
 - Order all drugs^{iv};
 - Receive and account for all drugs^v;
 - Secure all drugs in a locked room or cabinet to which the practitioner has the only key or lock combination^{vi};
 - Ensure that all drugs are dispensed in compliance with NAC 639.745^{vii};
 - Ensure that no drug may be dispensed without the practitioner on-site at the facility^{viii};
 - Ensure that all drugs are dispensed personally to the patient at the facility^{ix};
 - Separately itemize the drug price of each drug dispensed on any bill or statement provided to the patient^x;
 - Dispense drugs only as medically necessary according to the prevailing standard of care for practitioners practicing in the specialty claimed or practiced by the dispensing practitioner^{xi}; and
 - Display the certificate for each dispensing technician employed at the facility in the room or cabinet where the drugs are stored^{xii}.

A dispensing practitioner may employ a dispensing technician to assist with certain acts related to dispensing drugs. A dispensing technician must be licensed by the Board before performing the duties of a dispensing

technician^{xiii}. A dispensing technician may not administer dangerous or controlled substances^{xiv}. A dispensing technician may only:

- Enter the room or cabinet in which drugs are stored;
- Remove drugs from the cabinet; count, pour and reconstitute drugs;
- Place drugs into a container;
- Produce and affix appropriate labels to containers that contain or will contain drugs;
- Fill containers for later use in dispensing drugs; or
- Package or repackage drugs^{xv}.

A dispensing practitioner may register more than one dispensing technician, but only one dispensing technician may be designated and allowed to perform the functions described above at a time^{xvi}. A dispensing technician may not prescribe drugs^{xvii}. A dispensing practitioner is responsible for the work of the dispensing technician and the work of the dispensing technician must be performed only at the express direction of the dispensing practitioner^{xviii}. A practitioner must check the work of the dispensing technician and shall indicate on the label such and in his record regarding the prescription that he has checked the work performed. The label must be initialed by the practitioner and must be handed to the patient only by the dispensing practitioner or an employee authorized by the dispensing practitioner^{xix}. The practitioner may dispense drugs only after informing the patient that the patient may request a written prescription and have it filled at a pharmacy^{xx}.

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- ⁱ NAC 639.742(1).
 - ⁱⁱ NRS 639.0065.
 - ⁱⁱⁱ NAC 639.742(2).
 - ^{iv} NAC 639.742(3)(a).
 - ^v NAC 639.742(3)(b).
 - ^{vi} NAC 639.742(3)(c).
 - ^{vii} NAC 639.742(3)(d).
 - ^{viii} NAC 639.742(3)(e).
 - ^{ix} NAC 639.742(3)(f).
 - ^x NAC 639.742(3)(g).
 - ^{xi} NAC 639.742(3)(h).
 - ^{xii} NAC 639.742(3)(i).
 - ^{xiii} NAC 639.7425(1).
 - ^{xiv} NRS 454.213 & NRS 453.375.
 - ^{xv} NAC 639.745(4).
 - ^{xvi} NAC 639.744(2).
 - ^{xvii} NRS 639.235(1).
 - ^{xviii} NAC 639.743(2).
 - ^{xix} NAC 639.743(2).
 - ^{xx} NAC 639.745(2).