



NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

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Guidance on Patient Counseling and Prescription Delivery in Response to COVID-19

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To promote patient access to needed prescription medications during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy has issued the following guidance for pharmacists and pharmacies on socially-distanced methods of patient counseling and prescription delivery.

Patient Counseling

NRS 639.266 and NAC 639.707 specify the requirements for patient counseling. “The communication must be in person *if practicable*, or by telephone or in writing if the patient or the person caring for the patient is not present at the pharmacy.” NRS 639.266(1) (emphasis added). NAC 639.707(1) further provides that generally “a pharmacist shall verbally provide a patient or a person caring for the patient” but subsection 3 permits counseling “in written form to the patient if a drug or device will be distributed to the patient outside the confines of the pharmacy by mail or any other delivery service.”

Prescription Delivery

Nevada law allows any Nevada-licensed pharmacy, whether located in or out of the State, to deliver a prescription to the patient outside the pharmacy. The statutory definition of “fill” NRS 639.0073 includes “direct or indirect delivery to a patient.” NRS 639.2328 authorizes licensed out-of-state pharmacies to provide mail order service delivery of prescriptions to Nevada patients. NRS 639.23288 authorizes the licensing and regulation of Internet pharmacies. NAC 639.708(4) specifies the requirements for prescription delivery by public carrier, which must include with the prescription the pharmacy’s telephone number together with the following written notice:

Written information about this prescription has been provided for you. Please read this information before you take this medication. If you have questions concerning this prescription, a pharmacist is available between the hours of __ and __ to answer your questions.

For questions regarding this guidance, please e-mail the Board office at pharmacy@pharmacy.nv.gov.

J. David Wuest, R.Ph.
Executive Secretary
Nevada State Board of Pharmacy