

## Pharmacy Technician Summit

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#### NABP Mission Statement

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) is the independent, international, and impartial Association that assists its member boards in protecting the public health.

#### Vision Statement

Innovating and collaborating today for a safer public health tomorrow.

#### NABP Purpose

Founded in 1904, the purpose of the Association is to provide for interstate and interjurisdictional transfer in pharmacist licensure, based upon a uniform minimum standard of pharmacist education and uniform legislation, and to improve the standards of pharmacist education, licensure, and practice by cooperating with state, national, and international governmental agencies and associations having similar objectives.



## Current State of Pharmacy Technicians in State Regulations

- Number of states that issue a license to a pharmacy technician: 15
- How many states register pharmacy technicians? 35
- Number of states that require technicians to obtain certification: 24
- How many states require completion of a technician training program? 44
- Number of states that require a technician examination: 26
  - o PTCB
  - o ExCPT



### Role of the Pharmacy Technician- Pandemic Impact

- Pace of change for pharmacy technician roles accelerated by at least five years
- PREP Act authorization for administration of COVID-19 vaccine
  - Technicians have played a pivotal role in the delivery of over two-thirds of the nation's vaccine
- Demonstrated safety record for pharmacist and pharmacy technician delivery of immunization services during PHE
- Expanded pharmacy technician roles enable pharmacist to practice at the top of their license



#### NABP Workgroup- August 2021

Work Group to Consider Extending Waivers-Excerpts from Report

- The work group then discussed expanded scope of practice and unanimously agreed to support permanent expansion for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in all circumstances
- Members further agreed to expand pharmacy technician scope of practice to include administration of vaccinations and point-of-care testing.
- In addition, members agreed that the pharmacist can delegate various activities based on the individual technician's training, skill level, and experience, but excluded clinical care activities.



#### Pharmacy Technician Product Verification

Long standing practice of "tech check tech" in institutional settings

Community practice setting expansion

- Bar code matching technology and processes
  - o Arizona
    - Board Regulation R4-23-1104.01
    - Technology-assisted Verification of Product
    - Not limited to a specific practice setting
  - o Idaho
    - Section 24.36.01.301
    - Verification of Dispensing Accuracy
  - o lowa
    - IA Statute 155A.33A Technician product verification programs



#### **Telepharmacy Practice**

- Expansion of states that allow this practice model
  - Permitted practice in 24 states currently
- New York AB 4195 in the general assembly
- Reduction in community sites in smaller communities driving this practice model
- Technology costs have come down
- Practice processes and technology have matured
- Increased demand for highly skilled pharmacy technicians



### Pharmacy Technician- Administration of Vaccines

- Currently allowed in the following states
  - o ID, MI, NV, RI, UT, WA, WI
- Bills that have passed in this year's legislative season
  - o FL HB 1209
  - o NH HB 572
- Bills that are still in motion in the legislature
  - o AK HB 145
  - o LA HB 424
  - o VA SB 672



#### APHA Community Pharmacy Workplace Summit Report

NABP joined this summit that involved a large cross section of stakeholders to improve community pharmacy working conditions

Technician specific report excerpts:

- Encourage pharmacists to coach pharmacy technicians on how to treat patients
- Value pharmacy technicians first, then work with them on how to treat patients.
- Stop saying "just a tech" and support pharmacy technicians if they need to step away from a situation.
- Engage pharmacists at the practice level regarding how technicians will be utilized in those settings and how the pharmacy techs should be empowered.
- The ratios of pharmacists to pharmacy technicians are not "one size fits all."
- Effectively utilize and empower pharmacy technicians in terms of salary and development.



# Thank you