



To: Board Members

Subject: Executive Officer Report

a. CURES Update

Relevant Law: [Health and Safety 11165](#) establishes the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) maintained by the State of California Department of Justice (DOJ) for electronic monitoring of, and internet access to information regarding, the prescribing and dispensing of schedule II-V controlled substances. Subdivision (h)(1) establishes provisions for the department to enter into an agreement with an entity operating an interstate data sharing hub, or an agency operating a prescription drug monitoring program in another state, for purposes of interstate data sharing of prescription drug monitoring program information.

Recent Update: Over the past several years, the DOJ has engaged with other agencies including neighboring states and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). DOJ implementation activities include entering into MOUs with the various jurisdictions as a precursor to data sharing. To date, DOJ has reached agreement with the Oregon prescription drug monitoring system and implemented interstate data sharing last year.

More recently, DOJ reached an agreement with the VA and recently implemented one-way search capabilities with VA. This process allows for authorized VA practitioners to search CURES.

b. Pharmacy Law Update Webinar

On an annual basis, as part of its educational activities, the Board updates its Pharmacy Law webinar. The updated webinar is available on the Board's [website](#) and can be accessed through PharmEd, the Board's learning management system.

c. Rite Aid Closures

As you may be aware, Rite Aid filed for bankruptcy in October 2023, resulting in the closure of several locations nationwide. On May 5, 2025, Rite Aid filed for bankruptcy again and is in the process of selling assets, including prescriptions, to other pharmacies.

Board records indicate that, as of the beginning of May 2025, Rite Aid had about 350 licensed pharmacies in California, which represents about 5 percent of retail community pharmacies in California. To assist licensees and patients impacted by these closures, the

Board has released a subscriber alert reminding licensees about the emergency refill provisions. Further, the Board, together with the Medical Board of California, Osteopathic Medical Board of California, and the Department of Consumer Affairs, released a [joint statement](#) regarding the closures. As noted in this joint statement, removal of the overly prescriptive requirements in Pharmacy Law as proposed in the Board's sunset measure, Assembly Bill 1503 (Berman, 2025), will mitigate impacts to patients, prescribers, and pharmacy personnel moving forward.

The Board has also posted a [fact sheet](#) regarding actions consumers can take if their pharmacy has closed, and has added a pharmacy locator on the Board's [homepage](#) as a banner.

As additional information becomes available the Board will update its website and leverage its list serve to disseminate information.

e. Medication Error Reporting

Relevant Law: Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 4113.1 establishes requirements for a community pharmacy to report, either directly or through a designated third party, medication errors to an entity approved by the Board.

Background: Following the state contracting process, as part of the Board's September 12, 2024 meeting, the Board approved the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) as the entity to receive and review medication error reports under BPC section 4113.1. The contract was signed and approved on January 30, 2025.

Recent Update: As reported in April 2025, staff have been working with ISMP on implementation activities. In April, the Board and ISMP released information about how to register with ISMP. More recently, the Board released a fact sheet that included information about the California Medication Error Reporting (CAMER) data elements and updated the dedicated [webpage](#) to include this information. In the fact sheet, the Board advised licensees that medication errors that occur on or after September 1, 2025, must be reported to the CAMER system consistent with legal requirements established.

f. National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Annual Meeting

May 13-16, 2025, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) convened its annual meeting. As part of this meeting, delegates from the member boards of pharmacy adopted resolutions addressing the following:

1. Drugs lost in transit
2. Joint accountability for pharmacy compliance
3. Payer/processor payment rates and methodologies impacting patient safety
4. Increasing access to medications for opioid use disorder
5. Task force to examine the use of the test of English as a requirement for foreign pharmacy graduate examination committee certification.

Additional information is available [here](#).

g. Joint Forum

The California State Board of Pharmacy, along with the Medical Board of California, Osteopathic Medical Board, Board of Registered Nursing, and others are hosting a joint forum to help facilitate better collaboration and understanding specifically related to access to controlled substances. The forum is scheduled for December 17, 2025, and will be convened both in person and via WebEx.

It is anticipated that the joint forum will include presentations for a variety of agencies, panel discussion, and breakout sessions. The focus of the breakout sessions will be to discuss opportunities for health care providers to collaborate to advance patient care.

As details are finalized additional information will be provided.