

**BOARD OF PHARMACY  
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING  
DRAFT MINUTES  
March 30, 2022  
12:30 p.m. ET  
Call In Number: (888) 585-9008  
Conference Code: 599-196-982(#)**

Participants in this public meeting should be aware that these proceedings are being recorded and that an audio file of the meeting will be posted to the board's website.

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jeffrey Mesaros, PharmD, JD, Chair  
Jonathan Hickman, PharmD  
Jeenu Philip, BPharm  
Patty Ghazvini, PharmD, BCGP

**STAFF PRESENT**

Jessica Sapp, Executive Director  
Traci Zeh, Program Administrator

**COURT REPORTER**

For the Record  
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**BOARD COUNSEL**

David Flynn, Esq.  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Christopher Dierlam, Esq.  
Assistant Attorney General

**JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Hector Vila, MD, Board of Medicine  
Sandra Schwemmer, DO, Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Also present on the call was Ed Tellechea, counsel to the Board of Medicine, Paul Vazquez, Executive Director for the Board of Medicine, Donna McNulty, counsel to the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and Allen Hall, Acting Executive Director for the Board of Osteopathic Medicine.

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Application for Initial Test and Treat Certification Course

The Board of Pharmacy has received an Initial Test and Treat Certification Course Provider Application from the America Pharmacists Association (APHA) Section 465.1895(2)(b) requires this application be reviewed and approved by the Board of Pharmacy, in consultation with the Boards of Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine.

**64B16-31.035 Test and Treat Certification: Initial Certification Course.**

(1) Applicants for Initial Certification Course approval shall submit an application using Form DH5062-MQA (eff. 08/20) "Application for Initial Test and Treat Certification Course" that is hereby incorporated by reference and available at <http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-12228> or <http://floridapharmacy.gov>.

(2) Initial test and treat certification courses shall be a minimum of 20 hours in duration, and shall meet all the following mandatory requirements:

(a) The course may only be offered by a program provider who is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), a program provider who is accredited to provide educational activities designated for the American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Award Category 1 credit, or a program provider approved by the American Osteopathic Association to offer continuing medical education credits.

(b) The course content and objectives offered by an approved provider shall be developed in conjunction with an individual licensed to practice pharmacy and an individual who is licensed allopathic or osteopathic physician.

(c) The course content shall include all those areas enumerated in Section 465.1895(2)(b), F.S., and shall also cover the following areas:

1. Laws and rules applicable to test and treat certifications; and
2. Writing and entering into a written protocol.

(d) No less than 8 hours of the course shall be offered through a live seminar or a live video teleconference.

(3) A pharmacist who successfully completes a board approved test and treat certification course shall be awarded 20 hours of general continuing education credits.

Dr. Vila addressed the Committee in support of the application advising all elements of the rule are captured within the course.

Dr. Schwemmer addressed the Committee in agreeance with Dr. Vila.

Motion: by Dr. Vila to approve the application and present to the Full Board of Pharmacy.

Seconded: by Dr. Schwemmer

Vote: Unanimous

b. Application for Registered Pharmacy Technician Immunization Certification Course

Ms. Sapp addressed the Committee regarding HB 1209, Administration of Vaccines. She explained the bill was passed by the legislature during the 2022 session. The bill authorizes registered pharmacy technicians to administer vaccines and immunizations once becoming certified by the Board of Pharmacy. For a technician to become certified one must complete a six-hour course and the course must be approved by the Board of Pharmacy in consultation with the Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine.

The course presented to the Committee was the six-hour immunization training program developed by the American Pharmacist Association. This course has been developed and used in response to the October 20, 2020, Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act amendment which authorized technicians to administer vaccines.

The Board of Pharmacy will begin rulemaking to implement this bill. This was placed before the Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Board of Pharmacy for when the Board begins implementation.

Dr. Hickman addressed the Committee inquiring if the application could be considered before the Board began the rulemaking process.

Mr. Flynn addressed Dr. Hickman and the Committee stating the statute sets the minimum content areas required for the course and the Board may discuss if additional rule making is necessary.

Mr. Philip addressed the Committee in support of the course application. He indicated this course sets the bar for the standard of the training and reiterated that a lot of technicians have already taken the course as a result of the public health emergency.

Dr. Ghazvini addressed the Committee in agreeance with Mr. Philip.

Motion: by Dr. Vila to approve the application and present to the Full Board of Pharmacy.

Seconded: by Mr. Philip

Vote: Unanimous

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:50 a.m. ET.