



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Division of Public Health



Board of Pharmacy

REPRODUCTIVE

&

SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES:

Prescribing, dispensing and administering  
contraceptives by pharmacists

Standing Orders

2023

**Effective: 12/04/2023**



**Division of Public Health Standing Orders:  
Prescribing, dispensing, and administering of contraceptives by pharmacists**

**BACKGROUND**

The Delaware Division of Public Health, in accordance with the enacted amendments to Title 16 and Title 24 of the Delaware Code relating to pharmacists dispensing and administering contraceptives, creates this standing order to allow duly licensed and trained pharmacists in the State of Delaware to dispense contraceptives and to dispense and administer injectable hormonal contraceptives to a patient.

**SCOPE**

This standing order applies to all pharmacists duly licensed under Chapter 25 of Title 24 of the Delaware Code and who have been trained to prescribe/dispense/administer contraceptives.

**DEFINITIONS**

“Contraceptives” means medications and devices approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the purpose of preventing pregnancy.

“Pharmacist” means an individual licensed under Chapter 25 of Title 24 of the Delaware Code and who has completed and is current with training in contraception use as outlined by the DE Board of Pharmacy

**PROCEDURES**

1. Screening and evaluation. Using the Center for Disease Prevention and Control's (CDC) [“Medical Eligibility Criteria”](#), the pharmacists shall screen the patient for medical eligibility before dispensing contraceptives
  - a. Following Medical Eligibility Screening, the patient may select any product that falls under Category 1 or 2 based on their health status.
2. Prescribing, Dispensing, and administration.

For persons who meet the medical eligibility criteria, the pharmacist may: Initiate, change, or terminate contraceptive therapy.

  - a. The pharmacist may prescribe and/or dispense up to twelve (12) months' supply of desired non-injectable contraception for which the patient meets eligibility criteria with the exclusion of the following:
    - i. Intrauterine devices
    - ii. Subdermal hormonal implants
  - b. For patients meeting the medical eligibility criteria, the pharmacist may prescribe and administer desired injectable contraception.



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**SIGNATURE PAGE**

The preceding procedures and guidelines for are approved for use by the Board of Pharmacy, under the direction of the Division of Public Health, including any qualified personnel designated by the Delaware Emergency Management Agency as permitted by 20 Del. C. §3137.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AWELE" with a stylized flourish at the end.

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Signed

Dr. Awele Maduka-Ezeh

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Printed Name

12/4/2023

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Effective Date

**AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER**

The Signature Page of the Standing Order issued by the Division of Public Health pertaining to Reproductive and Sexual Health Services is amended to state that:

The preceding procedures and guidelines ~~for~~ are approved for use by the Board of Pharmacy, effective the date of the Board President's signature as set forth below, under the direction of the Division of Public Health, including any qualified personnel designated by the Delaware Emergency Management Agency as permitted by 20 *Del. C.* §3137.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

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Ruth Dixon, R. Ph.  
President  
Delaware Board of Pharmacy

11/29/24  
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Effective Date