



GUIDANCE DOCUMENT: Physician Assistant Prescriptive Authority

Effective 10/15/15

The following information is provided as guidance, and may not reference all statutes and rules that specifically authorize physician assistants to perform services.

In general:

1. In order to prescribe, the physician assistant must have both of the following:
 - A license to practice issued by the State Medical Board of Ohio that includes a valid prescriber number; and
 - Have been authorized to prescribe by the supervising physician. Section 4730.41, Ohio Revised Code (hereinafter "ORC.")
2. Until on or about December 15, 2015, the Medical Board will continue to issue certificates to practice and provisional and full certificates to prescribe. On or about December 15, 2015, all physician assistants who hold both a certificate to practice and either a provisional or full certificate to prescribe will receive a license to practice that includes a valid prescriber number.
3. The prescribing of drugs must be in compliance with the Physician Assistant Formulary approved by the Medical Board.
4. The prescribing of Schedule II controlled substances must be in compliance with Section 4730.411, ORC.
5. The personally furnishing of drugs and therapeutic devices and samples of drugs and therapeutic devices must be in compliance with Section 4730.43, ORC.
6. The delegation of the administration of drugs to an unlicensed person must be authorized in the supervision agreement and be in conformance with Section 4730.203, ORC, and the applicable rule adopted by the Medical Board. The delegation authority that a supervising physician may grant to a physician assistant must be consistent with Rules 4731-23-02 and 4731-23-03, OAC, until such time as the physician assistant delegation rules are effective.
7. The physician assistant must obtain DEA registration in order to prescribe controlled substances.

Section 3701.048, ORC

A physician assistant with a valid prescriber number may administer, deliver, or distribute drugs, other than Schedule II and III drugs, according to an Ohio Department of Health protocol during a period of emergency that affects the public health. The emergency must be declared by the

Governor. The Director of the Ohio Department of Health must identify the one or more protocols to be implemented and the period of time during which the one or more protocols are effective.

Section 4730.11, ORC

1. A license as a physician assistant includes prescriptive authority if the applicant meets one of the following options:
 - a. Has either an ARC-PA master's or an ARC-PA degree other than a master's AND a master's or higher degree with clinical relevancy to physician assistant practice from a program accredited by a Council for Higher Education Accreditation (hereinafter "CHEA") recognized agency.
 - b. Holds a valid license or authority to practice as a physician assistant, including prescriptive authority, issued by another jurisdiction and has been in active practice in any jurisdiction through the three-year period immediately preceding the date of application; or
 - c. Holds an ARC-PA degree **and one** of the following:
 - Experience practicing as physician assistant, including prescriptive authority, for at least three consecutive years while on active duty, with evidence of service under honorable conditions in any armed forces or the national guard of any state, including any experience while practicing as a physician assistant for the Veteran's Administration; or
 - Experience practicing as a physician assistant, including prescriptive authority, for at least three consecutive years while on active duty in the US Public Health Service.
2. A licensee who did not have a master's at the time of licensure and who did not receive prescriptive authority under a method previously in effect that authorized the issuance of prescriptive authority to a person who does not meet educational requirements, may obtain prescriptive authority by presenting evidence of having obtained a master's or higher degree from an ARC-PA program or a master's or higher degree with clinical relevance to physician assistant practice from a program accredited by a CHEA recognized agency.

Section 4730.411, ORC

A physician assistant's prescribing of Schedule II controlled substances must be in compliance with Section 4730.411, ORC.

1. The general rule is that the patient must be in a terminal condition; the supervising physician initially prescribed the substance to the patient; and the prescription is for an amount that does not exceed the amount necessary for the patient's use in a single, twenty-four hour period.
2. The general rule is not applicable if the physician assistant practices at one of the locations listed under the exceptions in Section 4730.411, ORC.

Section 4730.411, ORC continued

3. The physician assistant may not prescribe a Schedule II drug from any convenience care clinic.
4. See also “Physician Assistant Practice at Urgent Care Centers or Retail Clinics,” Approved January 9, 2014.

Section 4730.43, ORC

The physician assistant with a valid prescriber number may personally furnish samples of drugs and therapeutic devices on the Physician Assistant Formulary subject to the conditions in Section 4730.43(A), ORC.

A physician assistant with a valid prescriber number may personally furnish drugs and therapeutic devices on the Physician Assistant Formulary according to the following:

- The physician assistant may personally furnish only the types of drugs specified in Section 4730.43(B), ORC.
- The physician assistant may personally furnish the drugs only in the locations specified in Section 4730.43(B), ORC.
- The physician assistant must comply with Medical Board rules.

Section 4730.431, ORC

A physician assistant with a valid prescriber number may personally furnish a supply of naloxone, or issue a prescription for naloxone, without having personally examined the person to whom it will be administered in compliance with Section 4730.431, ORC.

Section 4730.44, ORC

During the first five hundred hours of a physician assistant’s exercise of physician-delegated prescriptive authority the supervising physician must provide on-site supervision. Section 4730.44, ORC provides an alternative means for meeting this requirement for the physician assistant who practiced with prescriptive authority in another jurisdiction for not less than one thousand hours.

Section 4730.53, ORC

When prescribing controlled substances, the physician assistant must comply with Section 4730.53, ORC, and the rules of the Medical Board pertaining to the review of OARRS for controlled substances.