



ISSUE MEMORANDUM

DATE	January 28, 2022
TO	Practice and Education Committee (PEC)
FROM	Shara Murphy, Executive Officer <i>Prepared by Natalia Leeper, Lead Licensing Analyst</i>
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #8 – Discussion and Possible Action on Accepting Vaccination Injection Courses for Continuing Education Credit

At the April 16, 2021, PEC meeting, Dr. McIntyre asked for information on the immunization courses to determine if they could be accepted for continuing education (CE) credits by the Board. Staff corresponded with both Ketchum and Western Optometry programs to understand what courses are being offered.

Further, at the July 23, 2021 PEC meeting, staff was asked to research whether the Board has a standard of accepting hours need to complete certification as part of the 50 hours of continuing education as part of the optometry licensee's renewal. No standard is in place. Staff reviewed audits from 2012-2014 and results were inconclusive. Reasons for the failure of the audit were not listed in the documentation.

Both universities have been administering the 20-hour APhA Pharmacy Immunization Delivery certification training program for the past 2 years. The course is administered to optometrists and pharmacists. Twelve hours of the course is self-study followed by an eight-hour live class. After they complete the twelve hours of self-study, they are tested.

A 70% or higher is required within two attempts before taking the live session. The course was designed with a broader more in-depth spectrum of immunizations since it was originally designed for PharmD certification. Background information from Ketchum University is attached. The APhA also has the modules and objectives of the course online: <https://www.pharmacist.com/Education/Certificate-Training-Programs/Immunization>

AB 443 created the immunization certification. In that addition, BPC 3041 (g)(1)(A) states that licensees must take a course approved by the CDC. The APhA Pharmacy Immunization Delivery certification training program is a course approved by the CDC for immunization training. However, it is not clear in law if any certification education such as immunization or glaucoma can be used for CE credit and the Board has previously not accepted such education for CE credit.

Staff requests further PEC discussion on this issue, including how many CE hours would be accepted and which format.

Example: if the Board were to approve the 20-hour course to be used toward the 50 hours of CE, only 15 hours might be used. The immunization could potentially not be

used as part of the 35 hours related to ocular disease. Twelve of the self-study hours required by certification could contribute to the 20 self-study hours permitted.

Leeper, Natalia@DCA

From: Bonnie Dellatorre <bdellatorre@ketchum.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 4:10 PM
To: Leeper, Natalia@DCA
Cc: Judy Ortiz; John Nishimoto; Julie Tyler
Subject: Vaccination and Injection Courses for CE

[EXTERNAL]: bdellatorre@ketchum.edu

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Hello Natalie,

I am so happy the board is addressing the immunization course for CE! MBKU has trained over 100 optometrists waiting for the board's decision on this 20-hour course.

MBKU | SCCO has been administering the 20-hour APhA Pharmacy Immunization Delivery certification training program for over two years now. It is based on national educational standards for immunization training from the CDC. This practice-based curriculum represents a fusion of science and clinical pharmacy. The program, which emphasizes a health care team approach, seeks to foster the implementation of interventions that will promote disease prevention and public health. The purpose of this certification training program is to prepare optometrists and pharmacists with the comprehensive knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to provide immunization service to patients across their life span.

Prior to the 8-hour live class, they must successfully complete a 12-hour Self Study course. After they complete the 12 hours of self-study, they are tested. A 70% or higher is required within two attempts before taking the live session. The course was designed with a broader more in-depth spectrum of immunizations since it was originally designed for PharmD certification.

The self-study learning activity is designed to ensure that all participants have an understanding of vaccine-preventable diseases and the role of pharmacists as vaccine advocates and administrators. There are five learning modules that present in-depth information on immunology, practice implementation, and legal and regulatory issues, with appropriate references to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) resource publication, Epidemiology, and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Disease. The self-study program includes a self-assessment test and real-life case studies that are designed to help reinforce and evaluate participants' understanding of key information and concepts.

The first 6 hours of the live class consists of a clinical review, managing a pharmacy-based immunization program, strategies for increasing immunization rates, applying ACIP immunization schedules, and how to communicate with patients.

After the live lecture, there is a hands-on skills assessment lab: 2-hours of hands-on injection techniques, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines. This lab reviews vaccine administration techniques. The attendees practice several types of injections with different size needles on oranges. They must successfully administer three vaccine injections with an APhA trainer on a live person with saline. Once they pass their injection assessment, there will be a final online test regarding the live class material.

Live Seminar Learning Objectives

The second component of the APhA's Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery certificate training program is an active learning seminar focusing on pharmacy practice implementation. The live training seminar is based on the experience of practitioners involved in immunization advocacy and administration. The training seminar reinforces and expands on the self-study program and addresses areas such as immunization needs, legal and regulatory issues, and injection-technique training. Participants will be expected to practice giving intramuscular and subcutaneous injections.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. I am happy to help!

All the best,

Bonnie Dellatorre

Director

Department of Continuing Education

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**Marshall B.
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From: Leeper, Natalia@DCA <Natalia.Leeper@dca.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 2:53 PM

To: Bonnie Dellatorre <bdellatorre@ketchum.edu>

Cc: Murphy, Shara@DCA <Shara.Murphy@dca.ca.gov>

Subject: Vaccination and Injection Courses for CE

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Hello Bonnie,

I'm Natalia and I'm the Lead Licensing Analyst with the Board of Optometry. The Practice and Education Committee is going to be looking at Vaccination and Injection courses to determine if they can be accepted as Continue Education by the Board.

Any materials or overview you could provide that would inform the Committee of the substance of these courses would be greatly appreciated

Regards,

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