

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 96  
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/11/21

Short Title: Allow Pharmacists to Admin. Injectable Drugs.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 17, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER INJECTABLE DRUGS.

3 Whereas, it is the intention of the North Carolina General Assembly to improve access  
4 to care and health outcomes for its citizens; and

5 Whereas, North Carolina citizens benefit from health care providers practicing at the  
6 top of their license; and

7 Whereas, pharmacists are essential health care providers; and

8 Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for services from all  
9 health care professionals; Now, therefore,

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 90-85.15B reads as rewritten:

12 "**§ 90-85.15B. Immunizing pharmacists.**

13 ...

14 (e) Pursuant to a specific prescription order initiated by a prescriber following an  
15 examination of the individual patient that conforms to the standards of acceptable and prevailing  
16 medical practice in North Carolina, an immunizing pharmacist is authorized to administer drugs  
17 and biologicals that are FDA approved via intramuscular or subcutaneous injection to human  
18 patients who are at least 18 years old, in accordance with the rules, including drug-specific  
19 written protocols, adopted jointly by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy and the North  
20 Carolina Medical Board, which may include continuing education requirements. Nothing in this  
21 subsection shall be construed to limit the ability of immunizing pharmacists to administer  
22 vaccinations and immunizations in accordance with subsections (b) or (c) of this section."

23 **SECTION 1.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2022, and applies to  
24 immunizing pharmacists on or after that date.

25 **SECTION 2.** No later than April 1, 2022, the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy  
26 and the North Carolina Medical Board shall jointly adopt rules to (i) implement the provisions  
27 of this act, (ii) establish and maintain a list of drugs and biologicals adopted pursuant to this act,  
28 including specific protocols for each drug or biological, that pharmacists may safely administer  
29 by injection, and (iii) develop record-keeping requirements, including a requirement that the  
30 pharmacist report administration of the drugs or biologicals authorized by this act to the  
31 prescriber within 72 hours. Drug- and biological-specific protocols shall address the essential  
32 considerations and precautions the immunizing pharmacist shall take before administering the  
33 drug or biological, including the age of the patient, potential side effects of the drug or biological,  
34 and any other matter deemed appropriate by the Boards.

35 **SECTION 3.** Except where otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes  
36 law.

