

Board of Pharmacy News Roundup – January 2026

Welcome to the monthly News Roundup from the California State Board of Pharmacy. To receive more details on any of the information reported here, click on the Board's website, www.pharmacy.ca.gov.

Upcoming Meeting: ALL meetings are open to the public; all are encouraged to attend. Please check <https://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/> for meeting dates and times.

Transition to Standard of Care

Under the provisions of Assembly Bill (AB) 1503 (Berman, Chapter 196, Statutes of 2025), certain pharmacist-provided patient care services are transitioning to a Standard of Care practice model effective January 1, 2026. The policy statement can be found [here](#).

Pharmacist-in-Charge

Under AB 1503, new provisions reinforce the decision-making autonomy of the PIC related to staffing decisions. Read the full policy statement [here](#).

Vaccines

Under AB 1503, pharmacist authority to independently initiate and administer vaccines for persons three years of age and older will transition to a standard of care practice model. Such an approach is consistent with other health care practitioners with similar practice authority.

California Albuterol and Epinephrine Standing Orders for Schools

California schools are authorized to stock unassigned albuterol metered-dose inhalers (MDIs), single-use disposable spacers, and epinephrine auto-injectors for emergency use. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has issued statewide standing orders that enable all California TK-12 public, charter, and private schools, as well as local education agencies (school districts), and county offices of education, to obtain MDIs and single-use disposable spacers, as well as epinephrine auto-injectors without an independent physician's prescription.

Standing orders are issued to schools under the name of the school and medications are not assigned to any specific student or staff. To learn more about program eligibility, training requirements, and how schools can apply or renew, please visit the CDPH website or contact the Office of School Health at SafeSchoolsTeam@cdph.ca.gov

New Requirements for Nonresident Pharmacies

Effective July 1, 2026, nonresident pharmacies (i.e., pharmacies located outside California that ship, mail, deliver, or otherwise dispense prescription medications or devices into California) must: Identify a California-licensed pharmacist employed and working at the nonresident pharmacy to be proposed to serve as Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC) over the nonresident pharmacy's California operations, and [submit the proposed PIC's name](#), license number, and effective date to the Board within 90 days of designation.

- Ensure the designated PIC is fully authorized to ensure operational compliance with California law, including California-specific dispensing, recordkeeping, labeling, consultation, controlled substances, and staffing requirements.
- Confirm the PIC has completed the required [Board-provided PIC training](#).
- Update the Board within 90 days of any subsequent [PIC change](#).

For forms and additional compliance information, please visit the California State Board of Pharmacy's [website](#).

Take Action Now to ensure your nonresident pharmacy is in full compliance by July 1, 2026.

California Medication Error Reporting (CAMER)

Register with ISMP to report medication errors to the California Medication Error Reporting (CAMER) system. Medication errors that occur on or after September 1, 2025, must be reported to the CAMER system. For information on how to register with ISMP's medication error reporting program, click here <https://mederrors.ismp.org/>. For technical issues please email clientservices@ecri.org. FAQs regarding medication error reporting can be found [here](#).

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