

March 24, 2020

Regarding: New Mexico Board of Pharmacy consultant pharmacist visitation schedule – clinics (other than clinics where sterile compounding occurs, Class A clinics, or narcotic treatment programs); home health care; and emergency medical services

During the declared 30-day state of emergency that runs through April 9, 2020:

- The Board does not intend to take action against a licensee who is in non-compliance with the visitation schedule for a consultant pharmacist inspection, during and due to the 30-day state of emergency that runs through April 9, 2020. Pharmacists should follow CDC and state-issued guidelines relative to infection control and prevention recommendations related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Consultant pharmacists are to use professional judgment in determining whether it is necessary to conduct an in-person inspection during the declared state of emergency.
- The duties and responsibilities of the consultant pharmacist are otherwise unchanged, including 16.19.4.11 NMAC (<http://164.64.110.134/parts/title16/16.019.0004.html>). This includes responsibility for ensuring that the drugs are handled in the facility in a manner that protects the safety and welfare of the patient. Consultant pharmacists are to complete all required inspection activities as possible by remote technologies (e.g. chart review, and corresponding documentation of activities).
- Pharmacists who delay facility inspection due to and during the COVID-19 state of emergency are to conduct an inspection as soon as practicable, and then resume the pre-state of emergency schedule of visits. Reason for delayed visit (i.e. declared state of emergency) should be documented by the pharmacist in the facility records.