



COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ricardo Sanchez, Public Member, Chairperson
Ryan Brooks, Public Member, Vice Chairperson
Shirley Kim, Public Member
Seung Oh, Licensee Member
Debbie Veale, Licensee Member

a. Update on Communications to Licensees and Stakeholders Regarding COVID-19

Background

On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in California in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Update

The Board has acted quickly and continuously to communicate important information to the licensees and stakeholders. Staff also has worked closely with DCA to review and coordinate all public messages related to COVID-19.

On March 5, staff issued a subscriber alert advising licensees how to request waivers to Pharmacy Law provisions in order to aid in the protection of public health or provide patient care. Starting March 17, staff began issuing subscriber alerts advising licensees each time a new Pharmacy Law waiver is approved. All waivers issued to date also have been posted on the Board's website.

In addition, staff posted frequently asked questions related to COVID-19 on the website, along with a joint statement regarding improper prescribing of treatments that was issued jointly by the Board of Pharmacy, the Medical Board of California, and DCA. The website also contains additional resources for licensees and the public, including guidance documents issued by state and federal agencies, and links to COVID-19 websites established by the Governor's Office, CDPH, CDC and FDA.

b. Discussion and Consideration of Committee's Strategic Goals

This item will be discussed under Agenda Item IX.