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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## ACT MEMO

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November 29, 2019

### 2019 Wisconsin Act 24 [2019 Assembly Bill 137]

### Vaccines Administered by Pharmacists and Pharmacy Students

2019 Wisconsin Act 24 modifies the authority of pharmacists and pharmacy students to administer vaccines, as described below.

## VACCINATING CHILDREN UNDER AGE SIX

**Prior law** prohibited pharmacists and pharmacy students from administering vaccines to children under age six.

**The act** allows pharmacists to administer vaccines to children under age six if: (1) the vaccine is administered pursuant to a prescription order issued within the prior 29 days; and (2) the pharmacist has successfully completed a course of instruction, approved by the Pharmacy Examining Board or the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, that includes the administration of vaccines to children under age six. Under the act, pharmacy students are still prohibited from administering vaccines to children under age six.

## VACCINATION PROTOCOLS AND PRESCRIPTIONS

**Prior law** provided that pharmacists and pharmacy students could only administer vaccinations pursuant to a written vaccination protocol agreed to by a physician and a pharmacist.

**The act** provides that pharmacists, and pharmacy students acting under the direct supervision of a pharmacist, may administer vaccines without a prescription order to patients age six and over if the vaccine is listed in the current immunization schedules recommended by the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A vaccine that is not on that list may be initiated and administered pursuant to a prescription order, standing order, or written vaccination protocol agreed to by a physician and a pharmacist.

## WISCONSIN IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY

**The act** adds a requirement that a pharmacist or pharmacy student who administers a vaccine must update, or cause a pharmacy to update, the Wisconsin Immunization Registry within seven days of administering the vaccine.

**Effective date:** November 21, 2019

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