Chapter RL 10

USE OF DIAGNOSTIC PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS BY LICENSED OPTOMETRISTS

RL 10.01 Definitions. As used in the rules in this chapter and in the interpretation and administration of chapter 280, Laws of 1977:

(1) "Adverse drug reaction" means an adverse, physical or psychological reaction experienced by a person resulting from diagnostic pharmaceutical agents administered by an optometrist which occurs within 24 hours after the drug is administered. An adverse drug reaction may be indicated by symptoms which include, but are not limited to, the following: red eye, painful eye, decrease in vision, pale or red swelling of the periocular or periorbital tissues, nausea, vomiting, fainting, mental confusion or cessation of respiration.

(2) "Adverse drug reaction referral plan" means a plan submitted to the department on an approved form in which the optometrist agrees to: a) refer patients who notify the optometrist of an adverse drug reaction to appropriate medical specialists or facilities; b) routinely advise the patient to immediately contact the optometrist if the patient experiences adverse reactions; and c) place in a patient's permanent record information describing any adverse drug reactions experienced by the patient and the date and time that any referral was made. Such plan shall include the names of at least 3 physicians, physician clinics or hospitals to whom the optometrist agrees to refer patients who experience an adverse drug reaction. At least one of these physicians shall be skilled in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the eye.

(3) "Approved institution" means the university of Wisconsin extension health sciences unit or any United States college of optometry accredited by the American council on optometric education which offers a course of study in general and ocular pharmacology meeting the requirements of s. 449.17 (4) Stats.

(4) "Classroom hour": For the purpose of determining whether a course of study meets the requirements of s. 449.17 (4), Stats., "classroom hour" means a 50-60 minute period of lecture, group discussion or laboratory directly associated with a course in pharmacology; time spent working in a clinic other than as part of a laboratory directly associated with a course in pharmacology does not qualify as a "classroom hour".

(5) "Course of study in pharmacology" means a course of study completed in an approved institution after 1973 in general and clinical pharmacology as it relates to optometry with the characteristics described in s. 449.17 (4) Stats. For courses, such as continuing education courses, which do not lead to a degree in optometry to qualify as part of a course of study in pharmacology, the courses must include at least one examination on course content.

(6) "DPA certificate" means a certificate issued by the department to an optometrist approving an adverse reaction referral plan submitted by

the optometrist and as evidence that the optometrist has completed all requirements in RL 10.03 Wis. Adm. Code and is entitled to use diagnostic pharmaceutical agents in accordance with ss. 449.17 and 449.19 Stats.

(7) "DPA report" means a semi-annual report submitted to the department by an optometrist on approved forms reporting on the optometrist's use of diagnostic pharmaceutical agents, including health benefits and problems resulting from such use and describing physical and psychological reactions to such use and the severity of each reaction.

(8) "Examination in pharmacology" means an examination on the subject of general and ocular pharmacology as it relates to optometry with the characteristics described in s. 449.17 (3) Stats.

(9) "Diagnostic pharmaceutical agent" means any of the topical, ocular, diagnostic, pharmaceutical agents listed below if used in accordance with the following conditions: agents may be used in strengths no greater than the strengths indicated in the list; may be used by the optometrist only and may not be dispensed by the optometrist to patients for self-administration.

(a) Mydriatics

1. Phenylephrine 2.5%

2. Hydroxyamphetamine 1%

(b) Cycloplegics

1. Tropicamide 1%

2. Cyclopentolate 1%

(c) Topical Anesthetics

1. Benoxinate 0.4%

2. Proparacaine 0.5%

3. Tetracaine 0.5%

4. Benoxinate 0.4% - Fluorescein 0.25% Combination

(d) Dyes

1. Fluorescein 0.25% - Benoxinate 0.4% Combination

History: Cr. Register, January, 1979, No. 277, eff. 2-1-79; am. (2) and (5), r. (9) (d) 2., Register, April, 1979, No. 280, eff. 5-1-79.

RL 10.02 Statement of approval required. A licensed optometrist may not use diagnostic pharmaceutical agents in the practice of optometry unless the optometrist has completed an application form and received a DPA certificate from the department.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1979, No. 277, eff. 2-1-79.

RL 10.03 Application for statement of approval. To obtain a DPA certificate, an optometrist must submit evidence to the department showing that the optometrist has:

(1) Completed a course of study in pharmacology; and,

(2) Successfully completed an examination in pharmacology; and,

(3) Established an adverse reaction referral plan.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1979, No. 277, eff. 2-1-79.