

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Title of Rule: Pharmacists, Pharmacies, and Manufacturers, Wholesalers, and Distributors (216-RICR-40-15-1)

Rule Identifier: 216-RICR-40-15-1

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 11/13/2020

End of Public Comment: 12/14/2020

Authority for this Rulemaking:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-19.1-5(6)

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The purpose of this regulation is to create definitions for active ingredient, auto substitute, COVID-19 and dispense as written; it permits prescription drugs to be returned to a pharmacy in the event of a recall or medication error and the pharmacy must maintain a record of returned medications and make the record available to the Department upon request; allows pharmacists to dispense an amount of non-controlled substance medication beyond the face amount not to exceed the total amount of authorized refills; allows for one-time emergency refill up to 90 days excluding schedules II, III, and IV drugs; allows pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to work remotely as operationally feasible; allows institutional pharmacies to store patients' personal medications in the patients' rooms; and permits certain pharmacy procedures in the event of a state of emergency.

Additional Information and Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until December 14, 2020 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Paula Pullano
Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill
Room 410
Providence, RI 02906
Paula.Pullano@health.ri.gov

In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by an agency or by an association having at

least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within thirty (30) days of this notice.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

In the development of this rule, consideration was given to:1) alternative approaches;2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and3) significant economic impact on small business.No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based on available information. RIDOH has determined that the benefits of the rule justify its costs.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.