

Pharmacy Examining Board

Mail To: P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

FAX #: (608) 261-7083
Phone #: (608) 266-2112

1400 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703

E-Mail: DSpscCredPharmacy@wisconsin.gov
Website: <http://dsps.wi.gov>

Institutional Tech-Check-Tech Pilot Program Information

Authority:

Pursuant to Wisconsin Stat. § 450.02(3r)(a), this pilot program is related to the practice of pharmacy or prescription verification and the Board determines that the program will improve the safety, quality or efficiency of the practice of pharmacy in this state. **The Board may modify the parameters of the Pilot Program at any time and participants shall remain in the Pilot Program at the discretion of the Board.**

Purpose: The purpose of institutional tech-check-tech (TCT) pilot program is to study the safety, quality, and efficiency of a pharmacy technician to make a final check of another pharmacy technician on the accuracy and correctness of the final dispensed medication. Implementation of a tech-check-tech program is not intended to reduce pharmacist staffing levels but is intended to increase the availability of a pharmacist for involvement for other patient care activities.

Waives: Phar 7.01(1)(c) and (d), and 7.015(3) (a) and (4), Wis. Admin. Code

Pilot Duration: October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2019 (or promulgation of rules whichever is sooner).

Pharmacy Eligibility:

1. The pharmacy shall be located and licensed in the state of Wisconsin.
2. A supervising pharmacist, licensed in the state of Wisconsin, shall be identified for each pharmacy to be accountable for the operations and outcomes of the TCT program. The final checks made by the validated technicians will be considered delegated acts of the supervising pharmacist. In the event of change of the supervising pharmacist, the managing pharmacy shall notify the Board of change within 5 days on a Board approved form.

Program Requirements:

1. Validated Technicians
 - a. Initial Validation: In order to become a validated technician, the following requirements must be met and maintained:
 - i. Employment averaging at least 20 hours per week at the pilot pharmacy
 - ii. A minimum of 2000 hours of experience as a pharmacy technician and at least 6 months of employment at the pilot pharmacy
 - iii. Completion of a didactic and practical training curriculum that includes the following:
 1. Elements of a package label (i.e. drug name, dose, dosage form, control or lot number and expiration date)
 2. Medication and pharmacy abbreviations needed to match ordered medication with dispensed medication (e.g., mg, mEq, ER, IR, tab, cap)
 3. Common dispensing medication errors and concepts (i.e. wrong medication, wrong dose, wrong dosage form, extra/insufficient quantity, omitted medications, expired medication, look-alike sound-alike errors, high-alert medications)
 4. Organizational policies and procedures on reporting of medication errors
 5. Overview of the organizations medication use process (i.e. procurement, ordering, dispensing, administration, and monitoring).
 6. A practical training designed to assess the competency of the technician prior to starting the validation process.
 - iv. Completion of the following validation process:
 1. The technician being validated shall make a final check on the work of another technician for accuracy and correctness of a minimum of 1000 final checks over a minimum of 5 separate days and achieve an accuracy rate of 99.8% or greater.

2. At least one occurrence each of wrong drug, wrong dose, wrong dosage form, extra/insufficient quantity, omitted medication and, expired dose shall be artificially introduced by a pharmacist who will ensure they are removed prior to delivery to a patient care area.
 3. A pharmacist shall audit 100% of the final checks made by the technician during the validation process.
- b. Re-validation:
- i. An assessment of validated technician accuracy shall be completed quarterly of the previous 12 months of ITCT final checks. A technician shall be revalidated if a validated technician fails to maintain a final check accuracy rate of 99.8% or has not performed TCT final checks within the last 6 months.
2. Eligible Medications
 - a. Medications shall be contained in a final package from a manufacturer or if packaged in the pharmacy a licensed pharmacist has ensured that the packaging process results in a final package that is labeled with the correct drug name, dose, strength, form, control or lot number, and beyond use date.
 - b. The supervising pharmacist shall ensure a process is in place for a pharmacist to prospectively review the clinical appropriateness of the medication order prior to leaving the pharmacy.
 - c. The medication shall be administered by an individual authorized to administer medications at the institution where the medication is administered.
 3. Quality Assurance
 - a. A minimum of 5% of all TCT final checks shall be audited by a licensed pharmacist each day that TCT is performed.
 - b. The accuracy of each validated technician shall be tracked individually.
 4. Policies and Procedures
 - a. Each pharmacy shall maintain policies, procedures, and training materials for the TCT program that will be made available to the Board upon request.
 5. Records
 - a. Each pharmacy shall maintain records for 5 years, available to the Board upon request, of the following:
 - i. All initial validation and revalidation records of each validated technician that include the dates that the validation occurred, the number of final checks performed, the number of final check errors, and overall accuracy rate.
 - ii. Names the supervising TCT pharmacist including start date and end date of supervision responsibilities.
 - iii. Daily quality assurance logs of the 5% pharmacist TCT audit including the name of technician, total number of final checks performed, number of final checks audited by the pharmacist, percentage of final checks audited by pharmacist, number of final check errors identified, and type of error (i.e., wrong drug, wrong dose, wrong dosage form, extra/insufficient quantity, omitted medications and, expired dose)
 6. Reporting Requirements
 - a. The supervising pharmacist of the tech-check-tech program shall annually submit to the Board, on a form approved by the Board, all of the following:
 - i. Total number of TCT final checks
 - ii. Total number TCT final checks audited by a pharmacist
 - iii. Total number of errors identified in the TCT final check pharmacist audit that were of the type of wrong drug, wrong dose, or wrong dosage form
 - iv. Total number of pharmacist hours reallocated to other patient care activities and description of those activities

Application: The managing pharmacist shall submit a Board approved application and receive approval of the Board to participate in the Pilot Program.