

# Georgia Composite Medical Board

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## NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND AND/OR ADOPT RULES

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Composite Medical Board (hereinafter “Board”) proposes amendments to the Georgia Composite Medical Board Rules by amending **Rule 360-34-.01 “Definitions.”** An exact copy of the proposed rule is attached to this Notice.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rules and a synopsis of the proposed amendments may be reviewed between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except official state holidays, at 2 MLK Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents can also be reviewed online at <https://medicalboard.georgia.gov/board/notice-intent-amendadopt-rules>.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at **8:30 a.m. on October 5, 2023, via TEAMS** to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rules. At the public hearing, any interested person may present data, make a statement or comment, or offer a viewpoint or argument orally or in writing. Lengthy statements and statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. To ensure their consideration, submit all written comments by **October 3, 2023**, to [Kierra.Battle@dch.ga.gov](mailto:Kierra.Battle@dch.ga.gov) or via mail to the Georgia Composite Medical Board Rules Committee at 2 MLK Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334.

The Board voted to adopt this Notice of Intent on **August 3, 2023**. Upon conclusion of the public hearing on **October 5, 2023**, the Board will consider whether the formulation and adoption of these proposed rule amendments imposes excessive regulatory costs on any license or entity, and whether any cost to comply with the proposed rule amendments could be reduced by a less expensive alternative that accomplishes the objectives of the statutes which are the basis of the proposed rule. Additionally, the Board will consider whether it is legal or feasible in meeting the objectives of the applicable laws to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D).

This Notice is adopted and posted in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4 of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act. A synopsis of the proposed rules and an economic impact statement are attached to this Notice. The authority for promulgation of these rules is O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-34-5, 43-34-103, and 43-34-108.

Issued this day August 3, 2023.

Daniel R. Dorsey  
Executive Director

## ECONOMIC IMPACT AND SYNOPSIS FOR

### RULE CHAPTER 360-34 Vaccine Protocol Agreements

#### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

The attached rules are promulgated under the authority of the Medical Practice Act, Title 43, Chapter 34. The Georgia Composite Medical Board licenses and regulates nine professions. The formulation and adoption of these rules do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee, and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Additionally, it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of the Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses listed in O.C.G.A. §50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D).

#### **RULE SYNOPSIS:**

##### **Rule 360-34-.01 Definitions**

**Purpose/Main Features:** The proposed change reflects the May 2, 2023, statutory change to O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1 that allows for the administration of a vaccine by a pharmacy technician and properly reflects the statutory provision defining the term “pharmacy technician” (O.C.G.A. § 26-4-5(32)).

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5; 43-34-5; 43-34-26.1

**RULES  
OF  
GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD**

**CHAPTER 360-34  
VACCINE PROTOCOL AGREEMENTS**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**360-34-.01 Definitions**

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**Rule 360-34-.01 Definitions**

As used in this Chapter, the following definitions apply:

- (1) 'Administer' means the provision of a unit dose of vaccine by a pharmacist or nurse pursuant to a vaccine order contained in a vaccine protocol agreement with a physician.
- (2) 'Adverse event' means an event that is a negative consequence of the administration of vaccine by a pharmacist or nurse that results in an unintended reaction, injury, or illness, which may or may not have been preventable.
- (3) 'Board' means the Georgia Composite Medical Board.
- (4) 'Nurse' means a registered professional nurse as defined in paragraph (9) of Code Section 43-26-3. The term shall also mean a licensed practical nurse as defined in paragraph (5) of Code Section 43-26-32 who is regularly employed by a physician who actively engaged in the private practice of medicine.
- (5) 'Pharmacist' means an individual licensed under Chapter 4 of Title 26 to engage in the practice of pharmacy in the State of Georgia.
- (6) 'Pharmacy intern' means a pharmacy intern as defined in paragraph (19) of Code Section 26-4-5.
- (7) 'Pharmacy technician' means a pharmacy technician as defined in paragraph (32) of Code Section 26-4-5.
- ~~(78)~~ 'Physician' means an individual holding a current license to practice medicine and surgery in this state and whose principal place of practice is located in this state.
- ~~(89)~~ 'Vaccine' means

(a) A vaccine that is included on the adult immunization schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention administered to an individual 18 years of age or older;

(b) An influenza vaccine administered to an individual 13 years of age or older; and

(c) Any vaccine administered to an individual 13 years of age or older for an illness that has resulted in a public health emergency, as defined in Code Section 31-12-1.1.

(910) 'Vaccine order' means a prescription drug order, contained in a vaccine protocol agreement, issued by a physician for a group of patients that meet a certain criteria and to be administered by a pharmacist or a nurse. A vaccine order shall also mean a prescription drug order, contained in a vaccine protocol agreement, for epinephrine issued by a physician for a group of patients that meet a certain criteria and to be administered by a pharmacist or a nurse only upon the occurrence of an actual or perceived anaphylactic adverse reaction to the administered vaccine provided that the vaccine protocol agreement sets forth the signs and symptoms that warrant the administration of epinephrine.

(1011) 'Vaccine protocol agreement' means a written document mutually agreed upon and signed by a physician and a pharmacist or by a physician and a nurse, by which document the physician prescribes a vaccine and epinephrine, if determined appropriate by the physician, by means of a vaccine order for administration by a pharmacist or a nurse.

**Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 43-34-26.1, 43-26-32.**