

TITLE 30: PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS  
PART 3001: MISSISSIPPI PHARMACY PRACTICE REGULATIONS

**ARTICLE XLIX      SHARED SERVICES**

Shared Pharmacy Services shall mean performing only a portion of the medication management process. This may include data entry, prior authorizations, reviewing therapeutic interventions, or reviewing chart orders. The originating pharmacy must be the filling and dispensing pharmacy. All pharmacies involved must be licensed with and comply with MS Board of Pharmacy regulations including technician to pharmacist ratio.

- A. Before participating in shared pharmacy services, a pharmacy shall have either a current resident or non-resident pharmacy permit issued by the Board and indicate they are participating in shared pharmacy services during the registration and renewal process.
- B. A pharmacy may provide or utilize shared pharmacy services functions only if the pharmacies involved:
  - 1. Have the same owner or common practice setting, and
  - 2. Have a written contract or agreement that outlines the services provided by each pharmacy and the shared responsibilities of each party in complying with federal and Mississippi pharmacy statutes and regulations, and
  - 3. Maintain a list of the name, address, telephone numbers, and all license and permit numbers of the pharmacies involved in pharmacy shared services; and
  - 4. Share a common electronic file or technology that allows access to information necessary or required to perform shared pharmacy services in conformance with the MS Pharmacy Act and the Board's rules, and
  - 5. The original unaltered prescription must be accessible to all parties at each stage of the process.
  - 6. The pharmacy that originally received the prescription must perform all filling functions, final verification, and delivery.
  - 7. Any pharmacy that is utilizing shared pharmacy services must provide sufficient on-site pharmaceutical services that meet the needs of the patients. The facility must have an on-site licensed pharmacist directing this service. Utilization of shared pharmacy services is not intended to reduce the access to on-site pharmaceutical services provided by a pharmacist or replace on-site distribution services.
- C. Notifications to patients. Before using any shared pharmacy services provided by another pharmacy, a pharmacy shall:
  - 1. Notify patients that their orders may be accessed, and non-filling functions performed by another pharmacy; and allow a pathway for the patient to opt-out.
  - 2. Provide the name of that pharmacy or, if the pharmacy is part of a network of pharmacies under common ownership and any of the network pharmacies may assist, notify the patient of this fact.

3. Provide the local, and if applicable, the toll-free number of the pharmacy utilizing shared services that has access to the patient's records.
- D. A pharmacy engaged in shared pharmacy services shall:
1. Maintain manual or electronic records that identify, individually for each order, the name, initials, or identification code of each pharmacist, pharmacy extern or intern, and pharmacy technician who took part in the order interpretation, order entry, drug utilization review, drug compatibility and drug allergy review, therapeutic intervention, refill authorization or other non-filling functions performed at that pharmacy as allowed in their respective scope.
  2. Report to the Board within thirty (30) days the results of any disciplinary action taken by another state's pharmacy regulatory agency involving shared pharmacy services.
  3. Maintain a mechanism for tracking the order during each step at all participating pharmacies.
  4. Provide adequate security to protect the confidentiality and integrity of patient information.
  5. Provide for inspection any required record or information within forty-eight (48) hours upon request by the Board or its designee.
  6. Operate a continuous quality improvement program for shared pharmacy services, designed to objectively and systematically monitor and evaluate the quality and appropriateness of patient care, pursue opportunities to improve patient care, and resolve identified problems. This includes maintaining records of any complaints or errors.
- E. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an individual pharmacist licensed in Mississippi, who is an employee of or under contract with a pharmacy, from accessing that pharmacy's electronic system from inside or outside the pharmacy and performing non-filling order functions permitted by the MS Pharmacy Act, if all of the following conditions are met:
1. The pharmacy establishes controls to protect the confidentiality and integrity of patient information.
  2. The remote pharmacist is licensed in Mississippi.
  3. None of the information is duplicated, downloaded, or removed from the pharmacy's electronic system.
  4. The remote accessing of the pharmacy record is not permitted by non-pharmacist support staff without the direct supervision of a co-located pharmacist.