



## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pharmacy Considerations**

Revised March 25, 2020

### [Guidance for Healthcare Providers Diagnosed with COVID-19](#)

- **HAND HYGIENE**
  - Ask patients to wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer before using keypads at the register.
  - Wash hands before and after direct patient contact.
  - Wash hands after touching a patient's money, prescription hardcopy, or other personal property.
  - Consider washing hands every 30 minutes if handling medications.
  - If possible, wear gloves while handling patients' prescriptions, medications, or other personal property.
  - Wash hands after signing portable signature pads for store deliveries (FedEx, UPS, wholesaler, etc.)
  - If passing materials to patients to return, offer them hand sanitizer before handing them the item.
  - Employees should wash hands after taking out any trash.
- **SANITIZATION**
  - Wipe down patient care areas every 30 minutes or after a sick patient is in the pharmacy.
  - Wipe down countertops, pens, keyboards and phones immediately after patient use.
  - Regularly sanitize the knobs on the doors to your pharmacy and pharmacy areas.
- **OUTSIDE VENDORS AND DELIVERIES**
  - Sanitize any deliveries that come to the pharmacy, including the outside of plastic containers.
  - Have outside workers (building maintenance, IT, pest control, etc.) wash hands and use sanitizer regularly while performing service calls.
- **DELIVERY DRIVERS**
  - Ask that delivery drivers not enter patients' homes, if possible. To minimize any contact, call the patient to let them know they have arrived, and leave medications where requested.
  - Wipe down the interior of the delivery vehicle before and after each shift.
- **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**
  - Have patients who are coughing and sneezing wear masks or remain outside of the pharmacy.
  - Use gloves and masks when coming in direct contact with patients (delivery drivers, immunizations, direct patient care).
- **AVOID**
  - Avoid touching your face with your hands (mouth, nose, eyes, etc.).
  - Avoid passing out any sample products.
  - Avoid utilizing patients' cell phones to talk with family members or other health care providers.
- **OTHER**
  - Do not utilize clipboards made of porous surfaces for patient use.
  - Ask that if employees wear a work jacket or uniform, that they wash it after each shift.
  - Encourage patients to utilize drive-thru, delivery or mail options if available, and if possible.
  - Require employees to take their temperature on a daily basis and to stay home if they have a fever.
- **REFERRAL**
  - For Tennessee specific information, please call (877) 857-2945 or go to [bit.ly/3aUfbna](https://bit.ly/3aUfbna) for information produced by the Office of Congressman Jim Cooper.