



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

MARK BENTON • Deputy Secretary for Health

SUSAN KANSAGRA • Assistant Secretary for Public Health

Division of Public Health

MEMORANDUM

TO: LHD Directors of Nursing, Nurse Supervisors, Pharmacists, and Health Directors

FROM: Susan Haynes Little, DNP RN, Chief Public Health Nurse
Amanda Fuller Moore, PharmD, State Pharmacist
NC DHHS Division of Public Health

DATE: 09/14/2022

SUBJECT: Changes to RN Dispensing in Local Health Departments Rule

[G.S. 90-85.34A Public Health Pharmacy Practice](#) sets out the conditions under which a registered nurse in a local health department clinic may dispense drugs and devices. Subparagraph (a)(3) limits the dispensing of drugs and devices. Effective October 1, 2022, [21 NCAC 46 .2403 Drugs and Devices To Be Dispensed](#) will be repealed and the nurse dispensing formulary will be managed through DHHS and the Board of Pharmacy proceedings, making it easier to adjust. The full formulary is now posted on the [Board of Pharmacy website](#).

In addition, effective September 1, the Pharmacy Board approved the addition of folic acid for the prevention of neural tube defects and other related conditions and low-dose aspirin for prevention or delayed onset of preeclampsia in pregnant individuals with increased risk of preeclampsia as defined by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine. The full formulary as of October 1, 2022:

1. Anti-tuberculosis drugs, as recommended by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services in the North Carolina Tuberculosis Policy Manual (available at www.ncdhhs.gov), when used for the treatment and control of tuberculosis;
2. Anti-infective agents used in the control of sexually transmitted diseases as recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control in the Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines (available at www.cdc.gov);
3. Natural or synthetic hormones and contraceptive devices when used for the prevention of pregnancy;
4. Topical preparations for the treatment of lice, scabies, impetigo, diaper rash, vaginitis, and related skin conditions;
5. Vitamin and mineral supplements;
6. Opioid antagonists prescribed pursuant to G.S. 90-12.7;
7. Epinephrine auto-injectors prescribed pursuant to G.S. 115C-375.2A;
8. Over-the-counter nicotine replacement therapies;
9. **Folic acid for prevention of neural tube defects and other related conditions; and**

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

LOCATION: 5605 Six Forks Road, Building 3, Raleigh, NC 27609
MAILING ADDRESS: 1931 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1931
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-707-5000 • FAX: 919-870-4829

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

10. Low-dose aspirin for prevention or delayed onset of preeclampsia in pregnant individuals with increased risk of preeclampsia as defined by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (criteria available at [ACOG Practice Advisory](#))

Attached are Sample Standing Order templates for folic acid and low-dose aspirin.

Please share this memo with affected staff in your departments.

This memo remains valid until replaced.

Attachments

SAMPLE_SO_FolicAcidSupplements_081722 FINAL

SAMPLE_SO_LowDoseAspirinTherap_PrenatalCare_081722 FINAL

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

LOCATION: 5605 Six Forks Road, Building 3, Raleigh, NC 27609

MAILING ADDRESS: 1931 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1931

www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-707-5000 • FAX: 919-870-4829

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER