Collaborative Pharmacy Practice
Policy and Procedure #149

Pursuant to §40-43-30 (29) and (75), the Board issues the following guidance on Collaborative Practice Agreements.

I. Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreement or "Collaborative practice agreement" (hereinafter "CPA") is defined as a written and signed agreement entered voluntarily between a pharmacist or group of pharmacists practicing at a respective Pharmacy location and one or more prescriber(s) licensed in South Carolina which grants evidence-based healthcare services to patients pursuant to a specific treatment protocol delegated to a pharmacist by the prescriber. The Agreement may allow the Pharmacist, within the Pharmacist's scope of practice to conduct activities approved by the Prescriber and as defined by law and by the Regulations of the Board. The CPA must be within the scope of the Prescriber's current practice. Patients or caregivers shall be advised of such agreement.

II. The CPA shall include:
    a. identification of the Prescriber(s) and Pharmacist(s) who are parties to the Agreement;
    b. identification of applicable patients who are commonly managed by parties to the agreement
    c. The aspects of drug therapy management the pharmacist can engage in, including details on established protocols
        i. Applicable disease states or therapies the agreement is applicable to
        ii. A plan of treatment protocol guided by or based on current, objective, supportive scientific evidence
        iii. Established treatment pathways or algorithms the pharmacist should follow to manage/adjust existing medication orders
        iv. Lab monitoring expectations and incorporation into the applicable pathways
        v. Specific instructions for responding to acute allergic or other adverse reactions, if applicable

d. a process for generating any necessary Medical Orders, including Prescription Drug Orders, required to initiate allowed activities;
e. a method for the Prescriber to monitor compliance with the Agreement and clinical outcomes and to intercede where necessary;
f. a description of the Continuous Quality Improvement Program used to evaluate effectiveness of patient care and ensure positive patient outcomes;
g. a provision that allows the Prescriber to override a Collaborative Practice decision made by the Pharmacist whenever they deem it necessary or appropriate;
h. a provision that allows either party to cancel the Agreement by written notification;
i. an effective date;
j. signatures of all collaborating Pharmacists and Prescribers who are party to the Agreement, as well as dates of signing; and
k. a procedure for annual review and renewal within a time frame that is clinically appropriate.

III. Any Pharmacist who is a party to a CPA must:
a. have on file at their place of practice a copy of the written Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreement.
b. Provide any additional information the Board may require concerning the Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreement upon request.
c. have adequate training and or experience relative to the scope of the collaborative practice agreement. This training should be a minimum of 40 hours of practical training, 2 years of prior experience or an appropriate certification.

IV. Amendments to a Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreement must be documented, signed, and dated.

V. Documentation of Pharmacist Activities: Documentation of allowed activities must be kept as part of the patient's permanent record and be readily available to other health care professionals who are providing care to that patient and who are authorized to receive it. Documentation of allowed activities shall be considered Protected Health Information.

VI. A pharmacist acting under a collaborative practice agreement may ***not***:

a. Modify or discontinue medicinal drugs prescribed by a health care Prescriber with whom he or she does not have a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement.
b. Enter into a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement while representing yourself as an employee without the written approval of the permit holder and or PIC of the pharmacy, if applicable
c. Enter into a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement with a Prescriber if the Prescriber does not have an established relationship with the patient who will be served by the pharmacist under the collaborative pharmacy practice agreement.
d. Employ a Prescriber for the sole purpose of forming a collaborative practice agreement

VII. Collaborative practice agreements approved by an institutional committee such as the pharmacy and therapeutics committee and that will be used solely for patients while they are receiving care in the institution are exempt.