



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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KAITLAN BASTON, MD, MSc, DFASAM
Commissioner

Standing Order for Self-Administered Hormonal Contraceptives

CONTROL NUMBER: 2024-001

I. AUTHORITY

This standing order is issued by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health in her official capacity and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:14-67.9, which allows pharmacists practicing in the State of New Jersey and licensed by the New Jersey Board of Pharmacy to furnish self-administered hormonal contraceptives to a patient without a patient-specific prescription pursuant to standardized procedures and protocols jointly developed and approved by the Board of Pharmacy and the State Board of Medical Examiners.

II. SCOPE

This standing order shall be used only by licensed pharmacists in the State of New Jersey who are authorized to furnish self-administered hormonal contraceptives in compliance with N.J.S.A. 45:14-67.9 and the rules of the Board of Pharmacy set forth at Subchapter 14 of N.J.A.C. 13:39 ("Authorized Pharmacists"). The purpose of this standing order is to expand access to contraception in New Jersey in support of the public health through the issuance of a state-wide standing order that may be utilized by Authorized Pharmacists throughout the State.

III. AUTHORIZATION

Under this standing order, the Authorized Pharmacist shall determine patient eligibility utilizing the Department of Health's Health Screening Questionnaire and the United States Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use of the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (available at <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/contraception/mmwr/mec/summary.html>), and furnish hormonal contraceptives in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:14-67.9, the provisions of this standing order, and the rules of the Board of Pharmacy, including, without limitation, Subchapter 14 of N.J.A.C. 13:39. The appendices of Subchapter 14 of N.J.A.C. 13:39 are incorporated by reference and attached as appendices to this standing order as follows: Appendix A Pharmacist Hormonal Contraceptives Protocol; Appendix B Algorithm for Self-administered Pills, Patches, and Rings; Appendix C Algorithm for Self-administered Injectable Hormonal Contraceptives; and Appendix D Pharmacist Visit Summary and Referral Template. The Department of Health's Health Screening Questionnaire is incorporated by reference and attached hereto as Appendix E.

All Authorized Pharmacists must review with each patient, at minimum, major risks of taking a hormonal contraceptive, including but not limited to, blood clot, pulmonary embolism, and stroke, and must counsel each patient on when to seek medical attention.

Authorized Pharmacists shall provide hormonal contraceptive information sheets available at <https://www.nj.gov/health/reproductivehealth/birth-control-resources>.

In addition to the patient counseling and referral required by the rules of the Board of Pharmacy, Authorized Pharmacists shall provide resources to those patients who answered “yes” to question number 29 on the Health Screening Questionnaire, such as information on domestic violence (<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/women/domestic/>) and human trafficking (<https://www.njoag.gov/criminal-justice-services-human-trafficking-help/#dcj-humant-liaisons>).

Upon determining that a patient is eligible to receive a self-administered hormonal contraceptive pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:13-67.9 and the rules of the Board of Pharmacy, an Authorized Pharmacist may furnish the following methods of self-administered hormonal contraceptives that are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prevent pregnancy:

1. Combined oral contraceptive pills;
2. Progestin-only contraceptive pills;
3. Hormonal vaginal rings;
4. Hormonal contraceptive patches; and
5. Self-administered injectable hormonal contraceptives.

Estradiol valerate/dienogestestetrol/drospirenone, mestranol/norethindrone (50mcg/1mg) or any tablet with more than 35 mcg ethinyl estradiol may not be furnished pursuant to this standing order due to the complexity of administration and the need for medical supervision.

IV. EXPIRATION AND REVIEW

This standing order shall take effect upon adoption of hormonal contraceptive regulations by the New Jersey Boards of Pharmacy and Medical Examiners and shall not expire. This standing order shall remain in force and effect until modified, supplemented, superseded, or rescinded.

New Jersey Department of Health
Issuing Official:



Date: May 17, 2024

**Kaitlan Baston, MD, MSc, DFASAM
Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Health
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- Appendix A Pharmacist Hormonal Contraceptives Protocol
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