

September 1, 2020

Dear Senator Abrams, Representative Steinberg and members of the Public Health Committee,

The CT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics would like to provide our position on pharmacists administering a COVID-19 vaccine.

Our understanding of the intent of this action would be to provide increased access to COVID-19 vaccines and provide the ability to vaccinate a large number of people in a short amount of time.

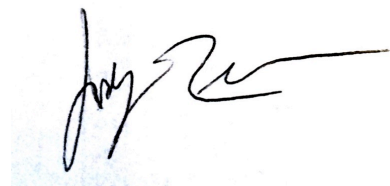
As pediatricians, we welcome the partnership of pharmacists in providing care to our patients under the extenuating circumstances of delivering COVID-19 vaccines to the general population during the pandemic. Our expectation is that pharmacists document these vaccines in the existing immunization registry (CT-WiZ) so that primary care providers and schools will have access to who has been vaccinated in real time. This will be critical to preventing duplicate vaccinations and wasted effort trying to do outreach to those who have already received the vaccine. This will also reduce any confusion if multiple doses are required.

To further support increased access to a COVID-19 vaccine in a timely manner we also support legislation that allows medical assistants to administer vaccines. Connecticut is an outlier, as 48 states allow for medical assistants to administer vaccines. Please also consider this if your intent is to improve access.

Sincerely,



Robert Dudley, MD  
President, CT-AAP



Jody Terranova, DO  
Immunization Representative, CT-AAP