

Drugs Which May Be Used by Certain Optometrists

Approved Drugs

- a.) *Administration and prescription of pharmaceutical agents for therapeutic purposes.* Optometrists who are certified to prescribe and administer pharmaceutical agents for therapeutic purposes under section 4.1 of the Optometric Practice and Licensure Act (63 P. S. § 244.4a), may prescribe and administer the drugs listed in subsections (c)(1) – (11) below in their practice of optometry. See also 49 Pa. Code § 23.202 for the application procedure for optometrists to administer and prescribe pharmaceutical agents for therapeutic purposes.
- b.) *Administration and prescription of pharmaceutical agents to treat glaucoma.* Optometrists who are certified to prescribe and administer pharmaceutical agents to treat glaucoma under section 4.2 of the Optometric Practice and Licensure Act (63 P.S. § 244.4b), may prescribe and administer the drugs listed in subsection (c)(12) below in their practice of optometry. See also 49 Pa. Code § 23.205 for the application procedure for optometrists to administer and prescribe pharmaceutical agents to treat glaucoma.
- c.) *Allowable pharmaceutical products.* Optometrists may prescribe and administer the following pharmaceutical products or the A-rated generic therapeutically equivalent drug:

(1) Topical Anesthetics

- (i) benoxinate
- (ii) lidocaine
- (iii) proparacaine
- (iv) tetracaine

(2) Topical Ocular Lubricants

- (i) Topical Irrigation
 - (A) lactated ringers

(3) Topical Ophthalmic Dyes and Stains

- (i) fluorescein
- (ii) fluorexen
- (iii) lissamine green
- (iv) rose Bengal

(4) Topical Hyperosmotic Agents

(5) Autonomic Drugs – Topical Only

(i) Adrenergic Agonists

- (A) antazoline
- (B) hydroxyamphetamine hydrobromide
- (C) naphazoline
- (D) oxymetazoline
- (E) phenylephrine hydrochloride
- (F) tetrahydrozoline

(ii) Adrenergic Antagonists – Diagnostic Use Only

- (A) dapiprazole
- (B) thymoxamine

(iii) Cholinergic Agonists

- (A) DFP (diisopropylfluorophosphate)
- (B) echothiopate
- (C) physostigmine
- (D) pilocarpine nitrate and pilocarpine hydrochloride – diagnostic use only

(iv) Cholinergic Antagonists

- (A) atropine sulfate
- (B) cyclopentolate hydrochloride
- (C) homatropine hydrobromide
- (D) scopolamine hydrobromide
- (E) tropicamide

(6) Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drugs – Topical Only

- (i) bromfenac
- (ii) diclofenac
- (iii) flurbiprofen
- (iv) ketorolac
- (v) nepafenac
- (vi) suprofen

(7) Antimicrobial Agents

(i) Antibacterial – Oral

(A) Cell Wall Inhibitors

(I) cephalosporins

- (-1-) First generation – cephalexin and cefadroxil**
- (-2-) Second generation – cefaclor and cefuroxime**

(II) penicillins – including in combination with clavulanic acid

(B) Protein Synthesis Inhibitors

- (I) azithromycin**
- (II) doxycycline**
- (III) erythromycin**
- (IV) minocycline**
- (V) tetracycline**

(ii) Antibacterial – Topical Use Only

(A) Cell Membrane Permeability

- (I) gramicidin**
- (II) polymyxin B**

(B) Cell Wall Inhibitors

- (I) bacitracin**
- (II) cephalosporins**
- (III) penicillins**
- (IV) povidone-iodine (Betadine)**
- (V) vancomycin**

(C) DNA Synthesis Inhibitors

- (I) besifloxacin**
- (II) ciprofloxacin**
- (III) gatifloxacin**
- (IV) levofloxacin**
- (V) moxifloxacin**
- (VI) norfloxacin**
- (VII) ofloxacin**

(D) Intermediary Metabolism Inhibitors

- (I) sodium sulfacetamide and sulfisoxazole
- (II) trimethoprim

(E) Protein Synthesis Inhibitors

- (I) aminoglycosides
- (II) azithromycin
- (III) chloramphenicol
- (IV) erythromycin
- (V) tetracycline

(iii) Antifungal and Antiparasitic – Topical Only

- (A) amphotericin B, nystatin, natamycin
- (B) miconazole, ketoconazole, clotrimazole
- (C) neomycin and polymyxin B
- (D) paromycin
- (E) thiabendazole

(iv) Antivirals – Oral

- (A) acyclovir
- (B) famciclovir
- (C) valacyclovir

(v) Antivirals – Topical Only

- (A) ganciclovir
- (B) idoxurine
- (C) trifluridine
- (D) vidarabine

(8) Analgesic Drugs – Oral and Topical

(i) Analgesic Drugs – Oral

- (A) codeine in combination with acetaminophen or aspirin
- ~~(B) hydrocodone *~~
- (C) pentazocine
- (D) propoxyphene
- (E) tramadol

*The Drug Enforcement Administration rescheduled hydrocodone combination products to Schedule II controlled substances. Pursuant to Section 2 of the Optometric Practice and Licensure Act, the practice of optometry does not include the use of Schedule I and Schedule II controlled substances. Therefore, starting on October 6, 2014, Pennsylvania optometrists are not authorized to prescribe HCPs.

(9) Anti-allergy

- (i) Antihistamines and Mast Cell Stabilizers – Topical Only
 - (A) alcaftadine ophthalmic solution 0.25% (Lastacaft)
 - (B) antazoline
 - (C) azelastine
 - (D) bepotastine besilate
 - (E) cromolyn
 - (F) emedastine difumarate
 - (G) epinastine
 - (H) ketotifen fumarate
 - (I) levocabastine
 - (J) lodoxamide
 - (K) nedocromil
 - (L) olopatadine
 - (M) pemirolast potassium
 - (N) pheniramine
 - (O) pyrilamine

(10) Steroids – Oral, Topical and Combination Agents

(i) Steroids - Oral

- (A) methylprednisolone
- (B) prednisone

(ii) Steroids – Topical

- (A) dexamethasone
- (B) difluprednate
- (C) fluorometholone
- (D) hydrocortisone
- (E) loteprednol
- (F) medrysone
- (G) prednisolone
- (H) rimexolone
- (I) triamcinolone

(iii) Antibiotic-Steroid Combination Agents

- (A) dexamethosone-tobramycin
- (B) fluorometholone-sulfacetamide sodium
- (C) gentamicin sulfate-prednisolone acetate
- (D) lotoprednol etabonate-tobramycin
- (E) neomycin sulfate-polymixin B sulfate-prednisolone acetate
- (F) prednisolone acetate-sulfacetamide sodium

(11) Immunomodulators – Topical Only

- (i) Cyclosporine
- (ii) Lifitegrast

(12) Glaucoma Agents

(i) Adrenergic Receptor Agonists

(A) Non-selective

- (I) dipivefrin
- (II) epinephrine

(B) Selective Alpha 2 Agonists

- (I) apraclonidine
- (II) brimonidine

(ii) Beta Adrenergic Receptor Blockers

(A) Non-selective

- (I) carteolo
- (II) levobunolol
- (III) metipranolol
- (IV) timolol

(B) Selective

- (I) betaxolol
- (II) levobetaxolol

(iii) Cholinergic Receptor Agonists

(A) Direct Acting

- (I) carbachol
- (II) pilocarpine

(B) Indirect Acting

- (I) demecarium
- (II) echothiophate iodide
- (III) physostigmine

(iv) Prostaglandin Analogs

(A) Docosanoid Derivatives

(I) unoprostone

(B) Eicosanoid Derivatives

(I) bimatoprost

(II) latanoprost

(III) travoprost

(C) Prostanoid Receptor Agonists

(I) tafluprost

(v) Topical Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors

(A) brinzolamide

(B) dorzolamide

Approval includes combination drugs of the above approved list.