



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WILDFIRE EVACUEES CAN GET NEEDED MEDICATIONS ***Board of Pharmacy Allows Pharmacists in Napa, Lake, Amador, Calaveras and Surrounding Counties to Furnish Needed Medications to Evacuees and Their Pets Without a Prescription.***

Sacramento – The California State Board of Pharmacy has voted to allow pharmacists in Lake, Napa, Amador and Calaveras Counties and adjacent counties to furnish needed and previously prescribed medications to wildfire evacuees, even if prescriptions are not on file with the pharmacy.

This waiver of certain regulations will also be in effect for evacuees to the adjacent counties of Alpine, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Mendocino, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tuolumne and Yolo.

The Board of Pharmacy held an emergency meeting in Sacramento Tuesday to respond to Governor Brown's declaration of a state of emergency because of raging wildfires.

The decision reached by the board temporarily waives some prescription requirements and allows pharmacies and hospital pharmacies to furnish wildfire evacuees with up to a 30-day supply, at the pharmacist's discretion, of medically necessary drugs for themselves or their pets without presentation of a prescription or prescription drug container. This waiver does not apply to controlled substances or sterile compounded prescriptions.

Pharmacists must attempt to contact the prescriber or the pharmacy which previously filled the prescription, but even without this, pharmacists may still supply medically necessary prescription medications to those displaced by wildfires in the affected counties.

The emergency waiver will be in effect as long as a state of emergency exists.

To view the decision, go to the Board of Pharmacy website at http://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/about/wild_fire_exemption.shtml.

The California State Board of Pharmacy protects and promotes the health and safety of California consumers by pursuing the highest quality of pharmacist care and the appropriate use of pharmaceuticals through education, communication, licensing, legislation, regulation and enforcement.

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