



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 11, 2022

Contact: Office of Public Affairs
media@dca.ca.gov

California Department of Consumer Affairs Issues Order Waiving Restrictions on Pharmacists Independently Initiating and Furnishing Paxlovid to Individual Patients

Today, the California Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) [issued a waiver](#) authorizing pharmacists to independently order and furnish COVID-19 therapeutic drug Paxlovid to patients under certain conditions. This waiver improves access to an important COVID-19 therapeutic for individuals requiring treatment as a result of COVID-19.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order [N-39-20](#), during the State of Emergency, the Director of DCA may waive any statutory or regulatory professional licensing requirements and amend scopes of practice pertaining to individuals licensed pursuant to Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, including pharmacists.

On July 6, 2022, the Food and Drug Administration amended the [Emergency Use Authorization](#) (EUA) for Paxlovid, an orally-administered COVID-19 therapeutic drug. The amended EUA expressly permits licensed pharmacists to independently order Paxlovid for individual patients under certain conditions.

The order goes into effect immediately. Pharmacists should review the order and conditions to independently initiate and furnish Paxlovid to patients. Patients should consult with their healthcare provider and/or pharmacist when seeking treatment.

For additional details on the order, click [here](#).

###

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS: *The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) protects consumers through oversight, enforcement, and licensure of professions, and helps consumers learn how to protect themselves from unscrupulous and unqualified individuals. Consumers can verify a license and file a complaint against a licensee online at www.dca.ca.gov or by phone at (800) 952-5210.*