

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

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*An Act to amend and reenact § 54.1-3408 of the Code of Virginia, relating to possession and administration of naloxone.*

[H 322]

Approved

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**  
**1. That § 54.1-3408 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**  
**§ 54.1-3408. Professional use by practitioners.**

A. A practitioner of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, dentistry, or veterinary medicine or a licensed nurse practitioner pursuant to § 54.1-2957.01, a licensed physician assistant pursuant to § 54.1-2952.1, or a TPA-certified optometrist pursuant to Article 5 (§ 54.1-3222 et seq.) of Chapter 32 shall only prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances in good faith for medicinal or therapeutic purposes within the course of his professional practice.

B. The prescribing practitioner's order may be on a written prescription or pursuant to an oral prescription as authorized by this chapter. The prescriber may administer drugs and devices, or he may cause drugs or devices to be administered by:

- 1. A nurse, physician assistant, or intern under his direction and supervision;
- 2. Persons trained to administer drugs and devices to patients in state-owned or state-operated hospitals or facilities licensed as hospitals by the Board of Health or psychiatric hospitals licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services who administer drugs under the control and supervision of the prescriber or a pharmacist;
- 3. Emergency medical services personnel certified and authorized to administer drugs and devices pursuant to regulations of the Board of Health who act within the scope of such certification and pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol; or
- 4. A licensed respiratory therapist as defined in § 54.1-2954 who administers by inhalation controlled substances used in inhalation or respiratory therapy.

C. Pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol, the prescriber, who is authorized by state or federal law to possess and administer radiopharmaceuticals in the scope of his practice, may authorize a nuclear medicine technologist to administer, under his supervision, radiopharmaceuticals used in the diagnosis or treatment of disease.

D. Pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his professional practice, such prescriber may authorize registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to possess (i) epinephrine and oxygen for administration in treatment of emergency medical conditions and (ii) heparin and sterile normal saline to use for the maintenance of intravenous access lines.

Pursuant to the regulations of the Board of Health, certain emergency medical services technicians may possess and administer epinephrine in emergency cases of anaphylactic shock.

Pursuant to an order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his professional practice, any school nurse, school board employee, employee of a local governing body, or employee of a local health department who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of epinephrine may possess and administer epinephrine.

Pursuant to an order or a standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his professional practice, any employee of a school for students with disabilities, as defined in § 22.1-319 and licensed by the Board of Education, or any employee of a private school that is accredited pursuant to § 22.1-19 as administered by the Virginia Council for Private Education who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of epinephrine may possess and administer epinephrine.

Pursuant to an order or a standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his professional practice, any employee of a public institution of higher education or a private institution of higher education who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of epinephrine may possess and administer epinephrine.

Pursuant to an order issued by the prescriber within the course of his professional practice, an employee of a provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or a person providing services pursuant to a contract with a provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services may possess and administer epinephrine, provided such person is authorized and trained in the administration of epinephrine.

Pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of

57 his professional practice, such prescriber may authorize pharmacists to possess epinephrine and oxygen  
58 for administration in treatment of emergency medical conditions.

59 E. Pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course  
60 of his professional practice, such prescriber may authorize licensed physical therapists to possess and  
61 administer topical corticosteroids, topical lidocaine, and any other Schedule VI topical drug.

62 F. Pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course  
63 of his professional practice, such prescriber may authorize licensed athletic trainers to possess and  
64 administer topical corticosteroids, topical lidocaine, or other Schedule VI topical drugs; oxygen for use  
65 in emergency situations; and epinephrine for use in emergency cases of anaphylactic shock.

66 G. Pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the  
67 course of his professional practice, and in accordance with policies and guidelines established by the  
68 Department of Health pursuant to § 32.1-50.2, such prescriber may authorize registered nurses or  
69 licensed practical nurses under the supervision of a registered nurse to possess and administer tuberculin  
70 purified protein derivative (PPD) in the absence of a prescriber. The Department of Health's policies and  
71 guidelines shall be consistent with applicable guidelines developed by the Centers for Disease Control  
72 and Prevention for preventing transmission of mycobacterium tuberculosis and shall be updated to  
73 incorporate any subsequently implemented standards of the Occupational Safety and Health  
74 Administration and the Department of Labor and Industry to the extent that they are inconsistent with  
75 the Department of Health's policies and guidelines. Such standing protocols shall explicitly describe the  
76 categories of persons to whom the tuberculin test is to be administered and shall provide for appropriate  
77 medical evaluation of those in whom the test is positive. The prescriber shall ensure that the nurse  
78 implementing such standing protocols has received adequate training in the practice and principles  
79 underlying tuberculin screening.

80 The Health Commissioner or his designee may authorize registered nurses, acting as agents of the  
81 Department of Health, to possess and administer, at the nurse's discretion, tuberculin purified protein  
82 derivative (PPD) to those persons in whom tuberculin skin testing is indicated based on protocols and  
83 policies established by the Department of Health.

84 H. Pursuant to a written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his  
85 professional practice, such prescriber may authorize, with the consent of the parents as defined in  
86 § 22.1-1, an employee of (i) a school board, (ii) a school for students with disabilities as defined in  
87 § 22.1-319 licensed by the Board of Education, or (iii) a private school accredited pursuant to § 22.1-19  
88 as administered by the Virginia Council for Private Education who is trained in the administration of  
89 insulin and glucagon to assist with the administration of insulin or administer glucagon to a student  
90 diagnosed as having diabetes and who requires insulin injections during the school day or for whom  
91 glucagon has been prescribed for the emergency treatment of hypoglycemia. Such authorization shall  
92 only be effective when a licensed nurse, nurse practitioner, physician, or physician assistant is not  
93 present to perform the administration of the medication.

94 Pursuant to a written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his  
95 professional practice, such prescriber may authorize an employee of a public institution of higher  
96 education or a private institution of higher education who is trained in the administration of insulin and  
97 glucagon to assist with the administration of insulin or administration of glucagon to a student diagnosed  
98 as having diabetes and who requires insulin injections or for whom glucagon has been prescribed for the  
99 emergency treatment of hypoglycemia. Such authorization shall only be effective when a licensed nurse,  
100 nurse practitioner, physician, or physician assistant is not present to perform the administration of the  
101 medication.

102 Pursuant to a written order issued by the prescriber within the course of his professional practice,  
103 such prescriber may authorize an employee of a provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral  
104 Health and Developmental Services or a person providing services pursuant to a contract with a provider  
105 licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to assist with the  
106 administration of insulin or to administer glucagon to a person diagnosed as having diabetes and who  
107 requires insulin injections or for whom glucagon has been prescribed for the emergency treatment of  
108 hypoglycemia, provided such employee or person providing services has been trained in the  
109 administration of insulin and glucagon.

110 I. A prescriber may authorize, pursuant to a protocol approved by the Board of Nursing, the  
111 administration of vaccines to adults for immunization, when a practitioner with prescriptive authority is  
112 not physically present, by (i) licensed pharmacists, (ii) registered nurses, or (iii) licensed practical nurses  
113 under the supervision of a registered nurse. A prescriber acting on behalf of and in accordance with  
114 established protocols of the Department of Health may authorize the administration of vaccines to any  
115 person by a pharmacist, nurse, or designated emergency medical services provider who holds an  
116 advanced life support certificate issued by the Commissioner of Health under the direction of an  
117 operational medical director when the prescriber is not physically present. The emergency medical

118 services provider shall provide documentation of the vaccines to be recorded in the Virginia  
119 Immunization Information System.

120 J. A dentist may cause Schedule VI topical drugs to be administered under his direction and  
121 supervision by either a dental hygienist or by an authorized agent of the dentist.

122 Further, pursuant to a written order and in accordance with a standing protocol issued by the dentist  
123 in the course of his professional practice, a dentist may authorize a dental hygienist under his general  
124 supervision, as defined in § 54.1-2722, to possess and administer topical oral fluorides, topical oral  
125 anesthetics, topical and directly applied antimicrobial agents for treatment of periodontal pocket lesions,  
126 as well as any other Schedule VI topical drug approved by the Board of Dentistry.

127 In addition, a dentist may authorize a dental hygienist under his direction to administer Schedule VI  
128 nitrous oxide and oxygen inhalation analgesia and, to persons 18 years of age or older, Schedule VI  
129 local anesthesia.

130 K. Pursuant to an oral or written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the  
131 course of his professional practice, such prescriber may authorize registered professional nurses certified  
132 as sexual assault nurse examiners-A (SANE-A) under his supervision and when he is not physically  
133 present to possess and administer preventive medications for victims of sexual assault as recommended  
134 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

135 L. This section shall not prevent the administration of drugs by a person who has satisfactorily  
136 completed a training program for this purpose approved by the Board of Nursing and who administers  
137 such drugs in accordance with a prescriber's instructions pertaining to dosage, frequency, and manner of  
138 administration, and in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board of Pharmacy relating to  
139 security and record keeping, when the drugs administered would be normally self-administered by (i) an  
140 individual receiving services in a program licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and  
141 Developmental Services; (ii) a resident of the Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision  
142 Impaired; (iii) a resident of a facility approved by the Board or Department of Juvenile Justice for the  
143 placement of children in need of services or delinquent or alleged delinquent youth; (iv) a program  
144 participant of an adult day-care center licensed by the Department of Social Services; (v) a resident of  
145 any facility authorized or operated by a state or local government whose primary purpose is not to  
146 provide health care services; (vi) a resident of a private children's residential facility, as defined in  
147 § 63.2-100 and licensed by the Department of Social Services, Department of Education, or Department  
148 of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; or (vii) a student in a school for students with  
149 disabilities, as defined in § 22.1-319 and licensed by the Board of Education.

150 In addition, this section shall not prevent a person who has successfully completed a training  
151 program for the administration of drugs via percutaneous gastrostomy tube approved by the Board of  
152 Nursing and been evaluated by a registered nurse as having demonstrated competency in administration  
153 of drugs via percutaneous gastrostomy tube from administering drugs to a person receiving services from  
154 a program licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to such person  
155 via percutaneous gastrostomy tube. The continued competency of a person to administer drugs via  
156 percutaneous gastrostomy tube shall be evaluated semiannually by a registered nurse.

157 M. Medication aides registered by the Board of Nursing pursuant to Article 7 (§ 54.1-3041 et seq.)  
158 of Chapter 30 may administer drugs that would otherwise be self-administered to residents of any  
159 assisted living facility licensed by the Department of Social Services. A registered medication aide shall  
160 administer drugs pursuant to this section in accordance with the prescriber's instructions pertaining to  
161 dosage, frequency, and manner of administration; in accordance with regulations promulgated by the  
162 Board of Pharmacy relating to security and recordkeeping; in accordance with the assisted living  
163 facility's Medication Management Plan; and in accordance with such other regulations governing their  
164 practice promulgated by the Board of Nursing.

165 N. In addition, this section shall not prevent the administration of drugs by a person who administers  
166 such drugs in accordance with a physician's instructions pertaining to dosage, frequency, and manner of  
167 administration and with written authorization of a parent, and in accordance with school board  
168 regulations relating to training, security and record keeping, when the drugs administered would be  
169 normally self-administered by a student of a Virginia public school. Training for such persons shall be  
170 accomplished through a program approved by the local school boards, in consultation with the local  
171 departments of health.

172 O. In addition, this section shall not prevent the administration of drugs by a person to (i) a child in  
173 a child day program as defined in § 63.2-100 and regulated by the State Board of Social Services or a  
174 local government pursuant to § 15.2-914, or (ii) a student of a private school that is accredited pursuant  
175 to § 22.1-19 as administered by the Virginia Council for Private Education, provided such person (a) has  
176 satisfactorily completed a training program for this purpose approved by the Board of Nursing and  
177 taught by a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, doctor of  
178 medicine or osteopathic medicine, or pharmacist; (b) has obtained written authorization from a parent or

179 guardian; (c) administers drugs only to the child identified on the prescription label in accordance with  
180 the prescriber's instructions pertaining to dosage, frequency, and manner of administration; and (d)  
181 administers only those drugs that were dispensed from a pharmacy and maintained in the original,  
182 labeled container that would normally be self-administered by the child or student, or administered by a  
183 parent or guardian to the child or student.

184 P. In addition, this section shall not prevent the administration or dispensing of drugs and devices by  
185 persons if they are authorized by the State Health Commissioner in accordance with protocols  
186 established by the State Health Commissioner pursuant to § 32.1-42.1 when (i) the Governor has  
187 declared a disaster or a state of emergency or the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services  
188 has issued a declaration of an actual or potential bioterrorism incident or other actual or potential public  
189 health emergency; (ii) it is necessary to permit the provision of needed drugs or devices; and (iii) such  
190 persons have received the training necessary to safely administer or dispense the needed drugs or  
191 devices. Such persons shall administer or dispense all drugs or devices under the direction, control, and  
192 supervision of the State Health Commissioner.

193 Q. Nothing in this title shall prohibit the administration of normally self-administered drugs by  
194 unlicensed individuals to a person in his private residence.

195 R. This section shall not interfere with any prescriber issuing prescriptions in compliance with his  
196 authority and scope of practice and the provisions of this section to a Board agent for use pursuant to  
197 subsection G of § 18.2-258.1. Such prescriptions issued by such prescriber shall be deemed to be valid  
198 prescriptions.

199 S. Nothing in this title shall prevent or interfere with dialysis care technicians or dialysis patient care  
200 technicians who are certified by an organization approved by the Board of Health Professions or persons  
201 authorized for provisional practice pursuant to Chapter 27.01 (§ 54.1-2729.1 et seq.), in the ordinary  
202 course of their duties in a Medicare-certified renal dialysis facility, from administering heparin, topical  
203 needle site anesthetics, dialysis solutions, sterile normal saline solution, and blood volumizers, for the  
204 purpose of facilitating renal dialysis treatment, when such administration of medications occurs under the  
205 orders of a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant and under the immediate and  
206 direct supervision of a licensed registered nurse. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a  
207 patient care dialysis technician trainee from performing dialysis care as part of and within the scope of  
208 the clinical skills instruction segment of a supervised dialysis technician training program, provided such  
209 trainee is identified as a "trainee" while working in a renal dialysis facility.

210 The dialysis care technician or dialysis patient care technician administering the medications shall  
211 have demonstrated competency as evidenced by holding current valid certification from an organization  
212 approved by the Board of Health Professions pursuant to Chapter 27.01 (§ 54.1-2729.1 et seq.).

213 T. Persons who are otherwise authorized to administer controlled substances in hospitals shall be  
214 authorized to administer influenza or pneumococcal vaccines pursuant to § 32.1-126.4.

215 U. Pursuant to a specific order for a patient and under his direct and immediate supervision, a  
216 prescriber may authorize the administration of controlled substances by personnel who have been  
217 properly trained to assist a doctor of medicine or osteopathic medicine, provided the method does not  
218 include intravenous, intrathecal, or epidural administration and the prescriber remains responsible for  
219 such administration.

220 V. A physician assistant, nurse or a dental hygienist may possess and administer topical fluoride  
221 varnish to the teeth of children aged six months to three years pursuant to an oral or written order or a  
222 standing protocol issued by a doctor of medicine, osteopathic medicine, or dentistry that conforms to  
223 standards adopted by the Department of Health.

224 W. A prescriber, acting in accordance with guidelines developed pursuant to § 32.1-46.02, may  
225 authorize the administration of influenza vaccine to minors by a licensed pharmacist, registered nurse,  
226 licensed practical nurse under the direction and immediate supervision of a registered nurse, or  
227 emergency medical services provider who holds an advanced life support certificate issued by the  
228 Commissioner of Health when the prescriber is not physically present.

229 X. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 54.1-3303, pursuant to an oral, written, or standing order  
230 issued by a prescriber or a standing order issued by the Commissioner of Health or his designee  
231 authorizing the dispensing of naloxone or other opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal in the  
232 absence of an oral or written order for a specific patient issued by a prescriber, and in accordance with  
233 protocols developed by the Board of Pharmacy in consultation with the Board of Medicine and the  
234 Department of Health, a pharmacist may dispense naloxone or other opioid antagonist used for overdose  
235 reversal and a person may possess and administer naloxone or other opioid antagonist used for overdose  
236 reversal to a person who is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a life-threatening opioid  
237 overdose. Law-enforcement officers as defined in § 9.1-101, employees of the Department of Forensic  
238 Science, employees of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, employees of the Department of  
239 General Services Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services, *employees of the Department of*

240 *Corrections designated as probation and parole officers or as correctional officers as defined in*  
241 *§ 53.1-1, and firefighters who have completed a training program may also possess and administer*  
242 *naloxone in accordance with protocols developed by the Board of Pharmacy in consultation with the*  
243 *Board of Medicine and the Department of Health.*

244 Y. Notwithstanding any other law or regulation to the contrary, a person who is authorized by the  
245 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to train individuals on the administration  
246 of naloxone for use in opioid overdose reversal and who is acting on behalf of an organization that  
247 provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the  
248 administration of naloxone for overdose reversal and that has obtained a controlled substances  
249 registration from the Board of Pharmacy pursuant to § 54.1-3423 may dispense naloxone to a person  
250 who has completed a training program on the administration of naloxone for opioid overdose reversal  
251 approved by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, provided that such  
252 dispensing is (i) pursuant to a standing order issued by a prescriber, (ii) in accordance with protocols  
253 developed by the Board of Pharmacy in consultation with the Board of Medicine and the Department of  
254 Health, and (iii) without charge or compensation. The dispensing may occur at a site other than that of  
255 the controlled substance registration provided the entity possessing the controlled substances registration  
256 maintains records in accordance with regulations of the Board of Pharmacy. A person to whom naloxone  
257 has been dispensed pursuant to this subsection may possess naloxone and may administer naloxone to a  
258 person who is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a life-threatening opioid overdose.

259 Z. Pursuant to a written order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his  
260 professional practice, such prescriber may authorize, with the consent of the parents as defined in  
261 § 22.1-1, an employee of (i) a school board, (ii) a school for students with disabilities as defined in  
262 § 22.1-319 licensed by the Board of Education, or (iii) a private school accredited pursuant to § 22.1-19  
263 as administered by the Virginia Council for Private Education who is trained in the administration of  
264 injected medications for the treatment of adrenal crisis resulting from a condition causing adrenal  
265 insufficiency to administer such medication to a student diagnosed with a condition causing adrenal  
266 insufficiency when the student is believed to be experiencing or about to experience an adrenal crisis.  
267 Such authorization shall be effective only when a licensed nurse, nurse practitioner, physician, or  
268 physician assistant is not present to perform the administration of the medication.