



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 18, 2008

TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Washington State Board of Pharmacy

SUBJECT: Correctional Pharmacy – Administrative Rule Discussion

We wish to inform you that the Washington State Board of Pharmacy is considering rules to establish standards for the practice of pharmacy in correctional facilities. You are receiving notice because this discussion may impact the way you handle, store, distribute, manage and administer pharmaceuticals.

On July 5, 2007, the board's intent to consider the need for practice standards for correctional facility pharmacies was published in the state register. Originally, the standards were to be applied to facilities licensed by the board. In October, input from the stakeholder workgroup encouraged the board to expand its scope to include all correctional and detention facilities in an effort to improve patient safety for all incarcerated persons.

The stakeholder group consists of representatives from the Department of Corrections, King County Correctional Facilities and several smaller jurisdictions.

At this time, we find that we did not have all the appropriate interested parties involved in our work. It is essential to the development of suitable standards that all effected parties participate. Fortunately we are early in the process and are still in the initial discussion and draft process. We would like to invite you and your colleagues to assist us in this significant task.

For more information or to join the interested parties list, please contact Doreen Beebe, Program Manager, at (36) 236-4834 or by email at Doreen.beebe@doh.wa.gov. You may also join the list at anytime, or view the archives of messages that have been sent to this list, by going to <http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?A0=WSBOP-RULES&X=4F5FCC5ECA9C3388E8&Y>.

Thank you. We look forward to receiving your input and working with you on this very important patient safety project.