

Pharmacy Law Quick Reference Guide

1906 Pure Food and Drug Act

- The first federal law regulating drugs
- Prevented manufacture/sale/distribution of inaccurately labeled food and drugs across state lines
- Required that labels contain accurate information about a medication's strength and purity

1938 Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act

- Required drugs to be therapeutic
- Prohibited adulteration and misbranding
- Adulteration - unsanitary packing, or when strength, quantity, or purity differs from the package label
- Misbranding - false labeling or the absence of warning labels

1951 Durham-Humphrey Amendment

- Separated medication into two groups:
- OTC
 - Required to have cautions and warnings
 - Required to name all ingredients and quantities
- Legend (Prescription)
 - Required to have (on the label):
Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription.

1962 Kefauver-Harris Amendment

- Standardized labeling requirements
- Required package inserts on legend medication
- Mandated good manufacturing processes

1970 Controlled Substances Act (CSA)

- Regulated use and distribution of medications that could lead to abuse
- Created the DEA
- Set up drug schedules

1970 Poison Prevention Act (PPA)

- Goal: reduce accidental poisonings in children
- Required use of child safety caps on substances that are potentially harmful (99.9% of drugs)
- Those child safety caps should be significantly difficult for a 5 year old to remove
- Exceptions:
 - Nitroglycerin
 - A waiver from the patient
 - Certain (less than harmful) medications

1972 Drug Listing Act

- Compiled a "list" of all marketed medications and assigned those medications NDC numbers.
- Example: 06242-5413-52
 - first 5 digits designate the manufacturer
 - the next 4 digits are the product code
 - the last 2 digits are the package size code

1983 Orphan Drug Act

- Enables manufacturers to create medications for use in rare disease.
- 50% tax incentive
- 7 year exclusive market exclusivity
- Research grants for clinical testing
- A "rare disease" effects less than 200,000 people in the United States

1984 Waxman-Hatch Act

- “The Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act”
- Ensured brand name drug manufacturers would be entitled to market exclusivity for a period of time
- Allowed for less expensive generics to enter the marketplace after that period expired

1990 OBRA

- “Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act”
- Initially required pharmacists to offer counseling to all Medicaid and Medicare patients
- It has since been expanded to require pharmacists to offer counseling to all patients on all fills of a prescription

1990 Anabolic Steroid Control Act

- Anabolic steroids promote muscle growth yet have serious health consequences when they are abused
- This act reclassified Anabolic Steroids as CIII, providing for greater penalties when sold or used illegally

1996 HIPAA

- “Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act”
- Defined Protected Health Information
- Pharmacies were required to institute policies to protect patients’ PHI
- Severe civil and criminal penalties were put into place to protect PHI

1997 FDA Modernization Act

- Sped up approval of new medications
- Modified many of the steps in the approval process (as seen in Chapter 4)
- Changed “caution: Federal Law prohibits dispensing without a prescription” to “Rx Only”

2003 Medicare Prescription Drug Modernization Act

- Established a part of Medicare to assist with the purchasing of Prescription Meds
- “Medicare Part D”
- All Medicare enrollees are eligible

2005 Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act

- Required all vendors of pseudoephedrine and ephedrine to sell those products from behind the counter of a pharmacy
- Required record-keeping of all sales
- Limited amount of those products sold
- 3.6 g per day and 9.0 g per 30 day



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