



PHARMACIST ADMINISTERED VACCINES

Updated June 2022

Based on NASPA Analysis of State Pharmacy Practice Laws



GENERAL INFORMATION

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) lists 81 vaccines licensed for use in the United States.
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is a group of medical and public health experts that develops recommendations on how to use vaccines to control diseases in the civilian population of the United States.
- Once the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director has approved ACIP recommendations, they are published in CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR). Upon publication, the recommendations represent the official CDC recommendations for immunizations in the United States.
 - The live oral Adenovirus Type 4 and Type 7 vaccine is only approved for use in military populations and is not available to the general public. It is currently the only vaccine not addressed by official ACIP/CDC recommendations.
- CDC sets the U.S. adult and childhood immunization schedules based on recommendations from ACIP.



COMPONENTS OF PHARMACIST VACCINATION AUTHORITY

Every state allows pharmacists to administer vaccines, but laws vary in the details of that authorization. There are two main questions to consider when looking at pharmacist vaccination authority by state:

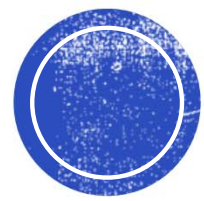
1. **Can pharmacists administer the vaccine?** Several states have restrictions on which vaccines the pharmacists can administer and/or age limitations on who the pharmacist can vaccinate.
2. **Does a patient need a prescription?** The pharmacist's authority to prescribe vaccines and/or administer a vaccine without a patient-specific prescription from another healthcare provider can vary by vaccine or patient age for each state.



TEMPORARY FEDERAL IMMUNIZATION AUTHORITY - PHARMACISTS

- The Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act authorizes the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to issue a PREP Act declaration. A PREP Act declaration is specifically for the purpose of providing immunity from liability, and is different from, and not dependent on, other emergency declarations.
- There are several **active PREP Act declarations related to COVID-19**, as well as General Counsel advisory opinions and HHS guidances. Some of these declarations and guidances have a significant impact on immunization authority for pharmacists and pharmacy interns.
- **Third Amendment – Childhood Vaccines**
 - Authorizes licensed pharmacists to order and administer and qualified pharmacy interns to administer childhood vaccines (ages 3 – 18)
- **HHS Guidance – COVID Vaccines**
 - Authorizes licensed pharmacists to order and administer and qualified pharmacy interns to administer COVID vaccines (ages 3 and older)
- **Tenth Amendment – Seasonal Influenza Vaccine**
 - Authorizes licensed pharmacists to order and administer and qualified pharmacy interns to administer seasonal influenza vaccines (ages 19 and older)





INFLUENZA, COVID-19, AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

PHARMACIST AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER INFLUENZA VACCINES

- Pharmacists can administer influenza vaccines in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- The chart shows age limits for pharmacists to administer the vaccine without a patient-specific prescription.
 1. Indicated states can administer influenza vaccines to any age with a prescription.
 2. New Jersey can administer influenza vaccines to ages 7+ with a prescription.
 3. North Carolina can administer influenza vaccines to ages 6+ with a prescription.
 4. Hawaii and West Virginia can administer influenza vaccines to ages 11+ with a prescription.

Age	States
Any age / 6 months +	AL, AK, CA, CO, DE, ID, IA, MI, MS, NE, NV, NH, NM, OK, SD, TN, UT, VT, VA, WA
2 years +	NY
3 years +	AZ, AR, MD, ND
6 years +	KS, MN, WI ¹
7 years +	FL, IL, LA ¹ , ME, MO ¹ , MT, OH, OR ¹ , TX ¹ , WY
9 years +	KY ¹ , MA, PA, RI
10 years +	NJ ² , NC ³
11 years +	IN ¹
12 years +	CT, DC ¹ , SC ¹
13 years +	GA ¹
18 years +	HI ⁴ , WV ⁴



STATE AUTHORITY FOR PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER COVID-19 VACCINES

- Pharmacists can administer COVID-19 vaccines under state authority in 49 states.
 - Under current state authority, South Carolina would require prescriptions for all COVID-19 vaccines administered by pharmacists.
 - Under current authority, the District of Columbia and Missouri would not allow pharmacists to administer COVID-19 vaccines.
- The chart shows age limits for pharmacists to administer the vaccine without a patient-specific prescription.
 1. Indicated states can administer COVID-19 vaccines to any age with a prescription.
 2. North Carolina and Arizona can administer COVID-19 vaccines to ages 6+ with a prescription.
 3. Delaware can administer vaccines to ages younger than 18 if the dose is the same concentration as an adult dose.
 4. Hawaii can administer COVID-19 vaccines to ages 14+ with a prescription.
 5. West Virginia can administer COVID-19 vaccines to ages 11+ with a prescription.

Age	States
Any age	AL, AK, CA, CO, ID, MI, MS, NE, NV, NH, NM, OK, SD, TN, UT, VT, WA
3 years +	AR, ME, MD, ND, VA ¹
6 years +	MN, WI ¹
7 years +	IL, MT, OH, OR ¹ , WY
9 years +	KY ¹ , MA
10 years +	NC ²
11 years +	IN ¹
12 years +	DE ³ , KS
13 years +	AZ ² , GA ¹
14 years +	TX ¹
17 years +	LA ¹
18 years +	CT, FL, IA ¹ , HI ⁴ , NJ, NY, PA, RI, WV ⁵



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY VARIANCES

- Some states include specific variances to pharmacist immunization authority during a state-declared public health emergency.

Arizona

Pharmacists may administer immunizations or vaccines to any person regardless of age without a prescription order during a public health emergency response.

Florida

Pharmacists, under a protocol with a physician, may administer immunizations or vaccines approved by the board to adults in response to a state of emergency declared by the governor.

Georgia

Pharmacists, under a protocol with a physician, may administer any vaccine for an illness that has resulted in a public health emergency to individuals 13 years of age or older.

Indiana

If the state department of health or the department of homeland security determines that an emergency exists, a pharmacist may administer any immunization to any age under a protocol with a physician and in accordance with any instructions in the emergency determination.



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY VARIANCES

- Some states include specific variances to pharmacist immunization authority during a state-declared public health emergency.

Iowa

Pharmacists may order and administer emergency immunizations or vaccines, pursuant to the statewide protocol developed by the board in consultation with the department of public health, to patients ages six months and older in response to a public health emergency.

New York

If the Commissioner of Health determines that there is an outbreak of disease, or that there is the imminent threat of an outbreak of disease, then the Commissioner of Health may issue a non-patient specific regimen applicable statewide for pharmacists to administer a vaccine.

Oregon

Pharmacists may administer a vaccine to a person who is at least 3 years of age when the governor declares a state of public health emergency and authorizes the reduced age limitation or when the public health director authorizes the reduced age limitation during a declared disease outbreak.

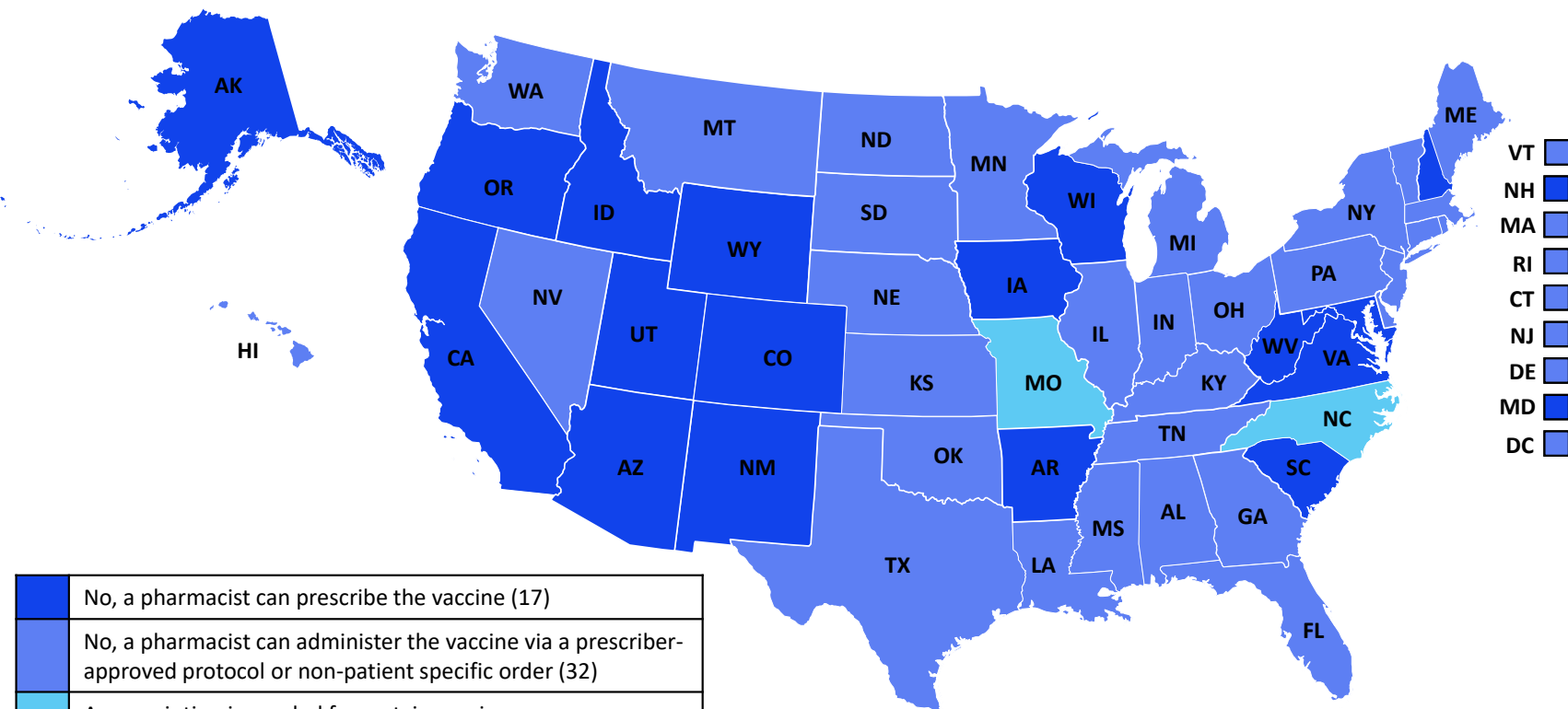




ROUTINE IMMUNIZATIONS

For the sake of clarity, the maps and information in this section do not take influenza or COVID-19 vaccines into account, even though both are on the [U.S. adult and childhood immunization schedules](#) set by CDC.

DOES A PATIENT NEED A PRESCRIPTION FOR A PHARMACIST TO ADMINISTER A VACCINE ON THE ADULT IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE?



No, a pharmacist can prescribe the vaccine (17)
No, a pharmacist can administer the vaccine via a prescriber-approved protocol or non-patient specific order (32)
A prescription is needed for certain vaccines, ages, or circumstances (2)

Pharmacists in all 50 states can administer all vaccines included on the CDC recommended adult immunization schedule.

Pharmacists in the District of Columbia can administer all vaccines on the adult immunization schedule except MMR and varicella vaccines.

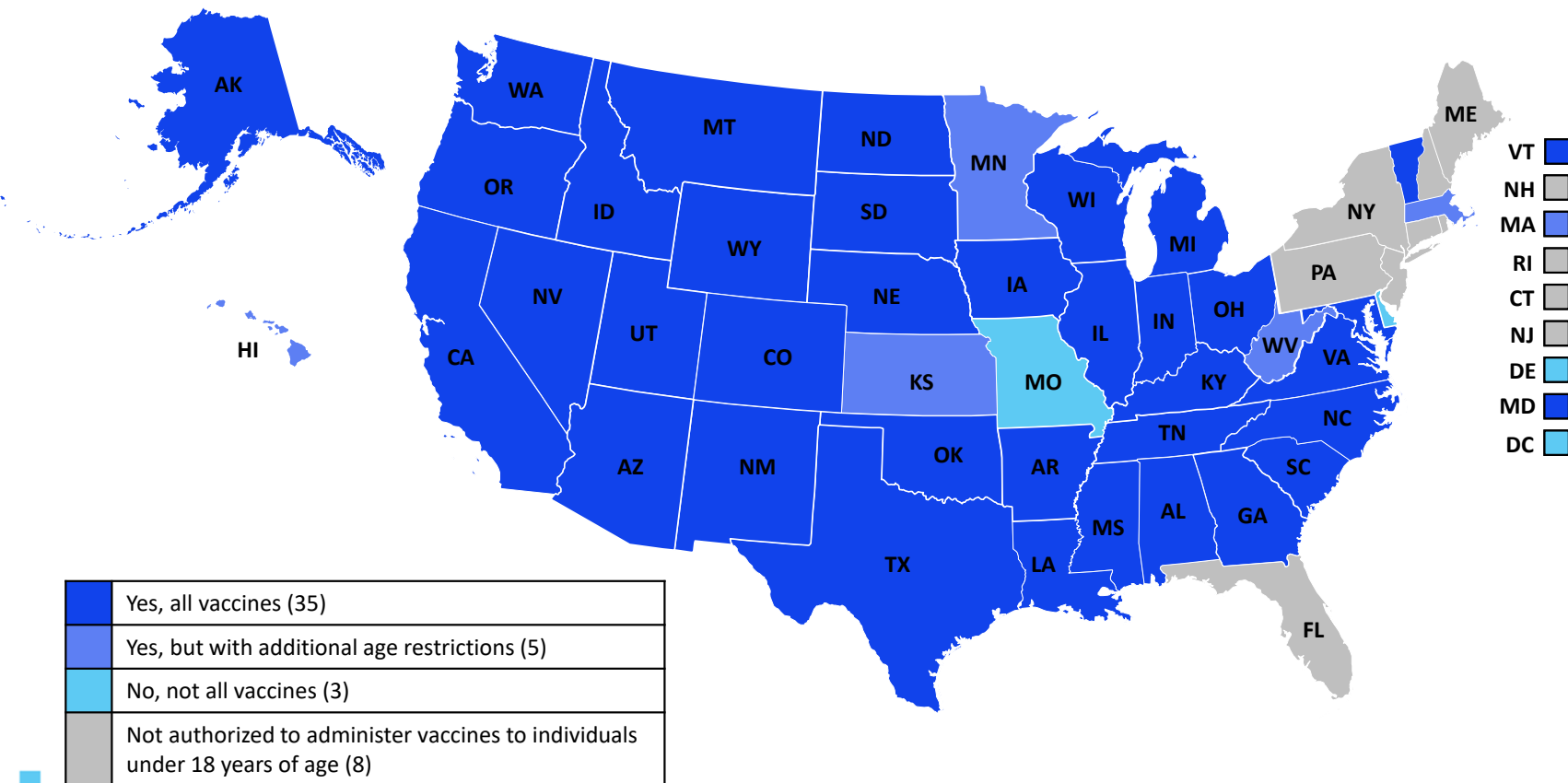


ADULT IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE: EXCLUDED VACCINES, AGE LIMITATIONS, AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

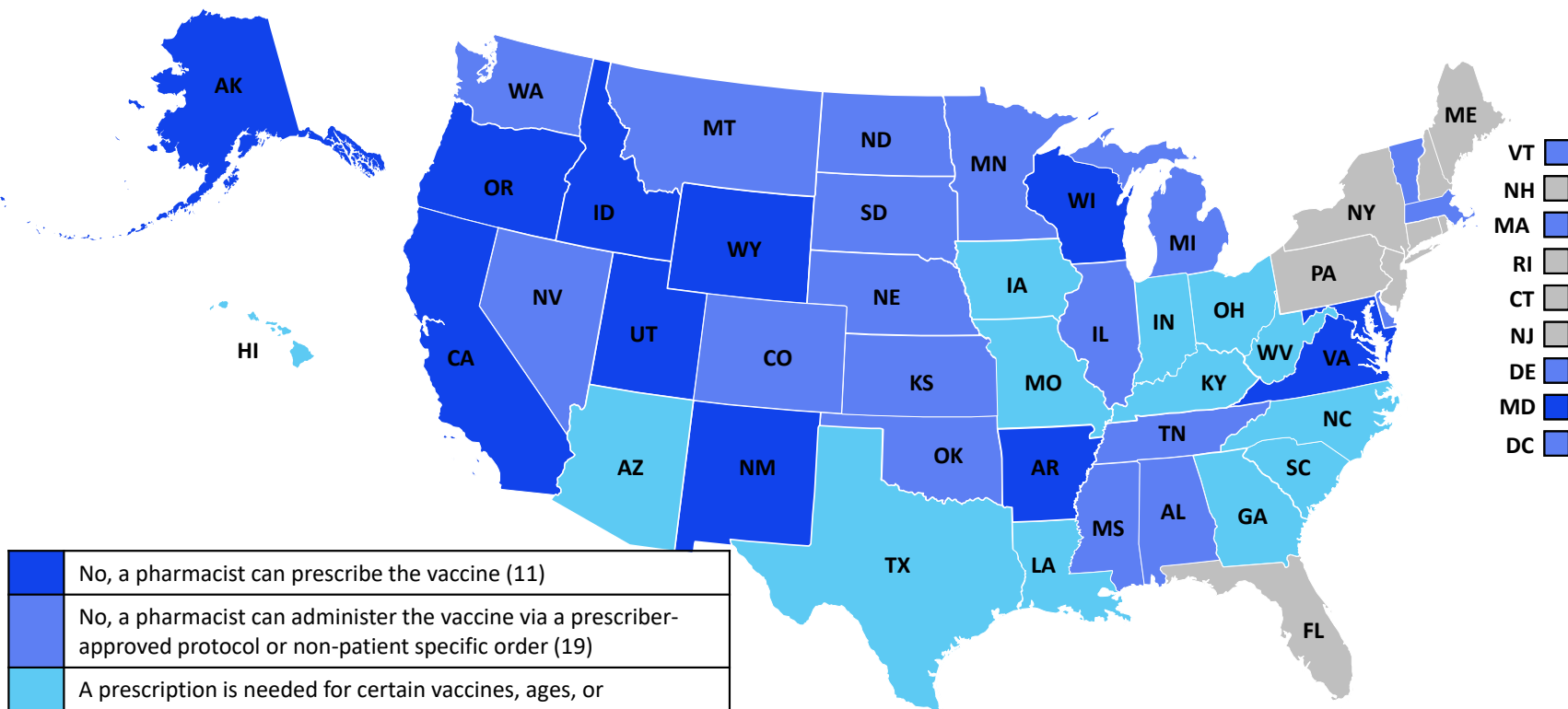
State	Excluded Vaccines, Age Limitations, and Other Considerations
District of Columbia	Administration authority excludes MMR and varicella vaccines.
Missouri	Prescription needed for Haemophilus influenzae, HPV, MMR, and varicella vaccines.
North Carolina	Prescription needed for Haemophilus influenzae, MMR, and varicella vaccines.



CAN PHARMACISTS ADMINISTER ALL VACCINES ON THE CDC RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN 7-18 YEARS OLD?



DOES A PATIENT NEED A PRESCRIPTION FOR A PHARMACIST TO ADMINISTER A CDC RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATION FOR CHILDREN 7-18 YEARS OLD?



Dark Blue	No, a pharmacist can prescribe the vaccine (11)
Medium Blue	No, a pharmacist can administer the vaccine via a prescriber-approved protocol or non-patient specific order (19)
Light Blue	A prescription is needed for certain vaccines, ages, or circumstances (13)
Grey	Not authorized to administer vaccines to individuals under 18 years of age (8)



IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN 7-18 YEARS OLD: EXCLUDED VACCINES, AGE LIMITATIONS, AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

State	Excluded Vaccines, Age Limitations, and Other Considerations
Arizona	Prescription needed for ages younger than 13.
District of Columbia	Administration authority excludes polio, MMR, and varicella vaccines. Administration authority excludes ages younger than 12.
Georgia	Prescription needed for ages younger than 18.
Hawaii	Prescription needed for ages younger than 18. Administration authority excludes ages younger than 14 for vaccines other than HPV, meningitis, and Tdap. Administration authority excludes ages younger than 11 for HPV, meningitis, and Tdap vaccines.
Indiana	Prescription needed for ages younger than 11.
Iowa	Prescription needed for HPV for ages younger than 11. Prescription needed for all other vaccines for ages younger than 18.
Kansas	Administration authority excludes ages younger than 12.

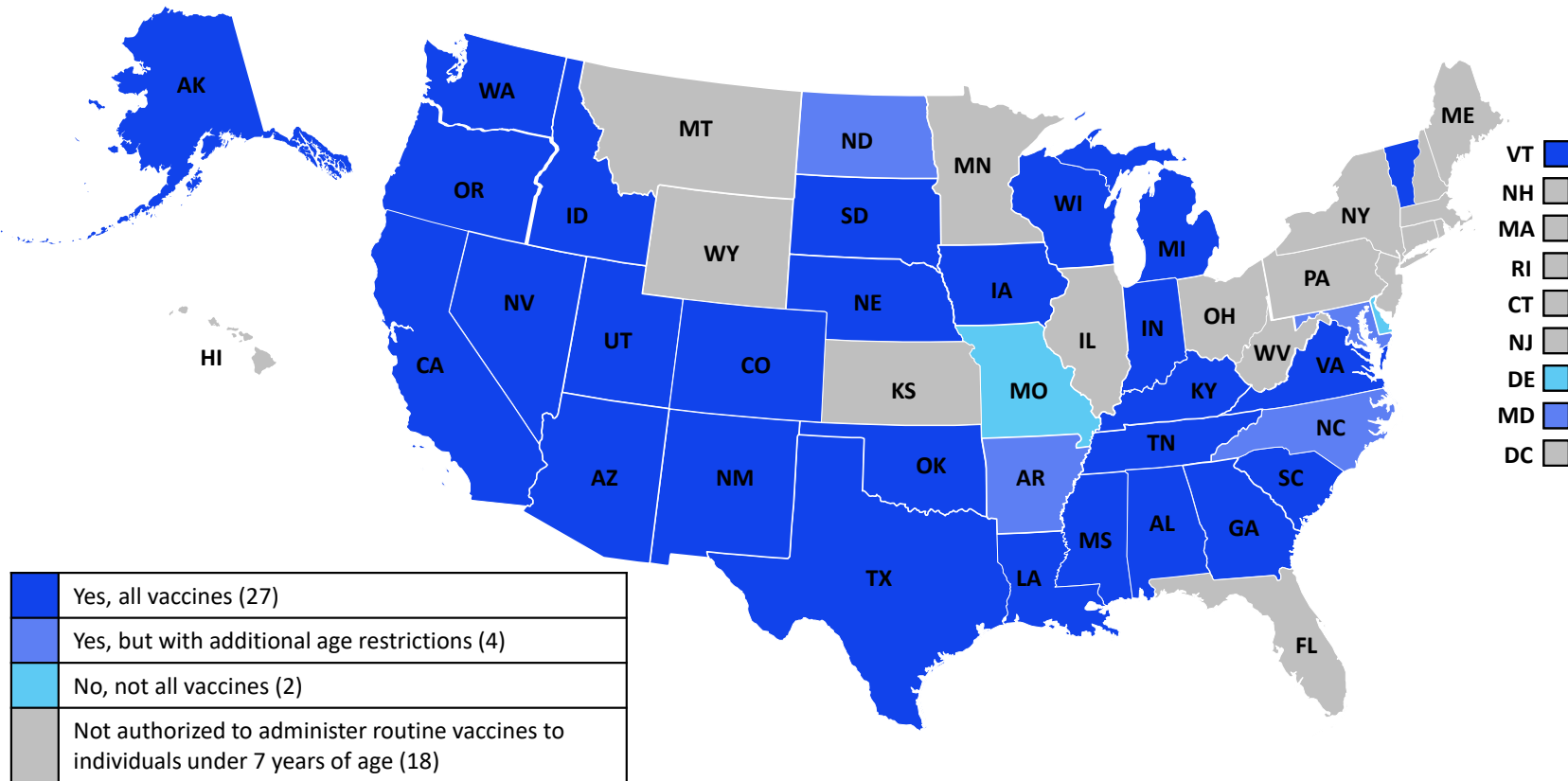


IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN 7-18 YEARS OLD: EXCLUDED VACCINES, AGE LIMITATIONS, AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

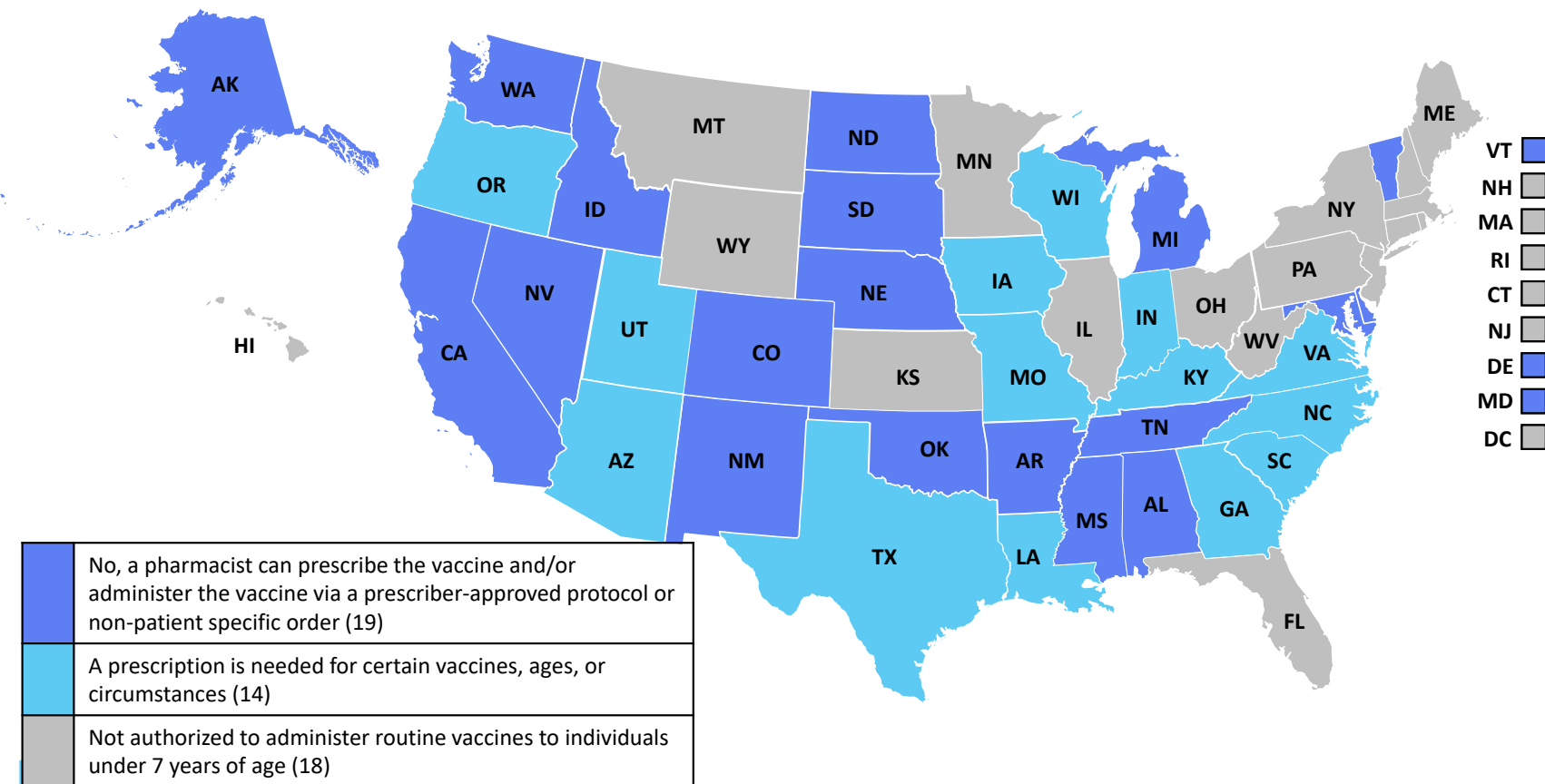
State	Excluded Vaccines, Age Limitations, and Other Considerations
Kentucky	Prescription needed for ages younger than 9.
Louisiana	Prescription needed for ages younger than 17.
Massachusetts	Administration authority excludes ages younger than 9.
Minnesota	Administration authority excludes ages younger than 13.
Missouri	Prescription needed for HPV, MMR, polio, and varicella vaccines.
North Carolina	Prescription needed for MMR, polio, and varicella vaccines. Prescription needed for ages younger than 18.
Ohio	Prescription needed for ages younger than 13.
South Carolina	Prescription needed for ages younger than 18.
Texas	Prescription needed for ages younger than 14.
West Virginia	Prescription needed for ages younger than 18. Administration authority excludes ages younger than 11.



CAN PHARMACISTS ADMINISTER ALL VACCINES ON THE CDC RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO 6 YEARS OLD?



DOES A PATIENT NEED A PRESCRIPTION FOR A PHARMACIST TO ADMINISTER A CDC RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATION FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO 6 YEARS OLD?



IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO 6 YEARS OLD: EXCLUDED VACCINES, AGE LIMITATIONS, AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

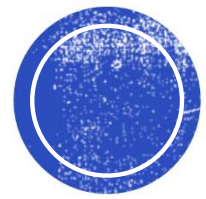
State	Excluded Vaccines, Age Limitations, and Other Considerations
Arizona	Prescription needed for ages younger than 13. Administration authority excludes ages younger than 6.
Arkansas	Administration authority excludes ages younger than 3.
Georgia	Prescription needed for ages younger than 18.
Indiana	Prescription needed for ages younger than 11.
Iowa	Prescription needed for ages younger than 18.
Kentucky	Prescription needed for ages younger than 9.
Louisiana	Prescription needed for ages younger than 17.
Maryland	Prescription needed for ages younger than 3.
Missouri	Prescription needed for Haemophilus influenzae, MMR, polio, rotavirus, and varicella vaccines. Prescription needed for ages younger than 7.



IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO 6 YEARS OLD: EXCLUDED VACCINES, AGE LIMITATIONS, AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

State	Excluded Vaccines, Age Limitations, and Other Considerations
North Carolina	Prescription needed for Haemophilus influenzae, MMR, polio, rotavirus, and varicella vaccines. Prescription needed for ages younger than 18. Administration authority excludes ages younger than 6.
North Dakota	Prescription needed for ages younger than 3.
South Carolina	Prescription needed for ages younger than 18.
Texas	Prescription needed for ages younger than 14.
Utah	Prescription needed for rotavirus and DTaP vaccines.
Virginia	Prescription needed for ages younger than 3.
Wisconsin	Prescription needed for ages younger than 6.

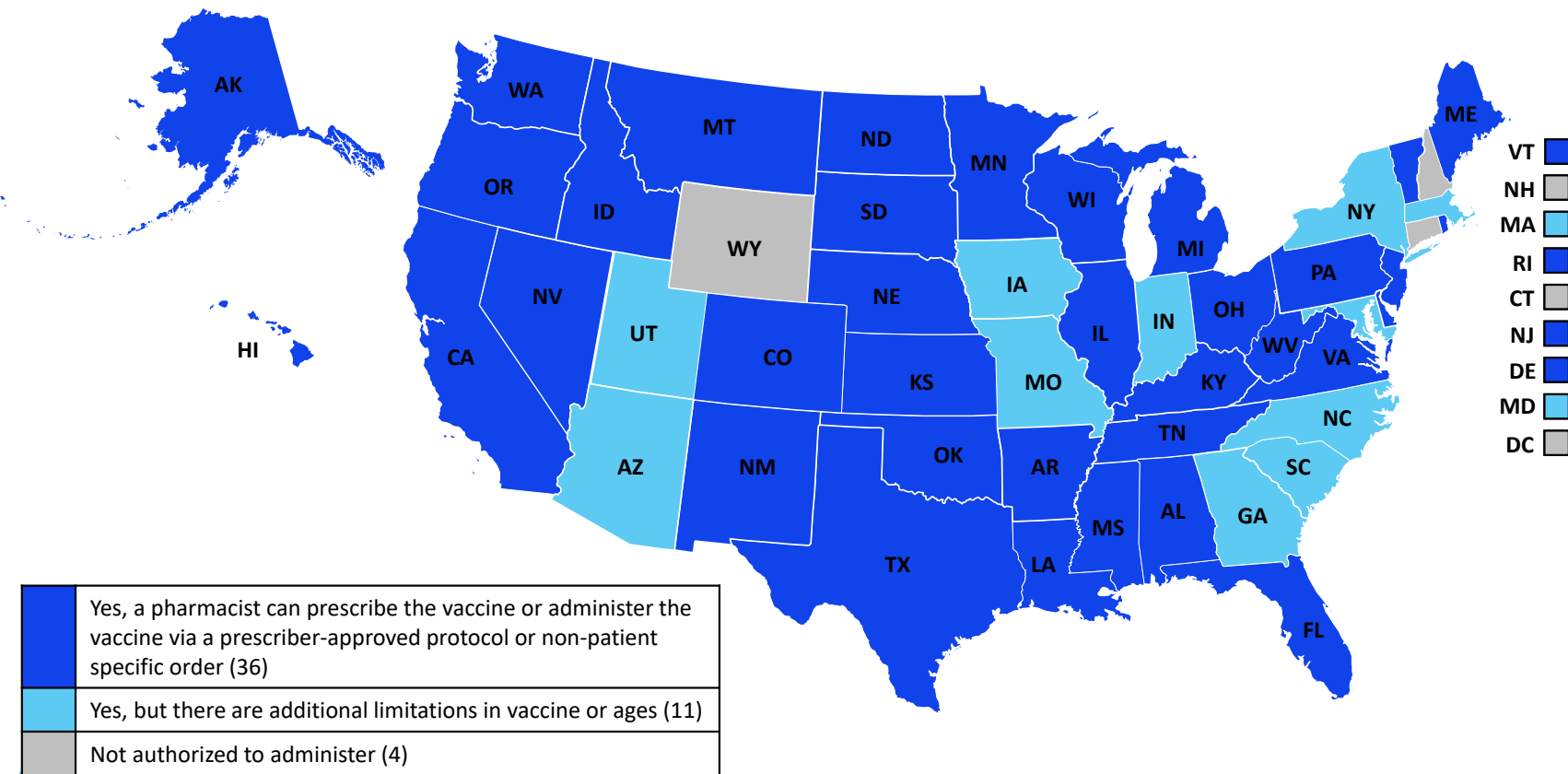




OTHER VACCINES LICENSED FOR USE IN THE U.S.

Many of the other vaccines licensed for use in the U.S. have additional regulations in place through state departments of health. The information in this section does not take those regulations into consideration – it is only focused on pharmacist scope of practice related to vaccine administration.

CAN PHARMACISTS ADMINISTER OTHER VACCINES LICENSED FOR USE IN THE U.S. TO ADULTS (18+)?



LIMITATIONS TO PHARMACISTS ADMINISTERING OTHER VACCINES LICENSED FOR USE IN THE U.S. TO ADULTS (18+)

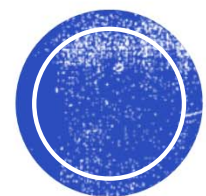
State	Limitations and Other Considerations
Arizona	Can administer vaccines recommended by CDC Health Information for International Travel without a prescription. Administration authority excludes other vaccines.
Georgia	All other vaccines can be administered but a prescription is needed.
Indiana	All other vaccines can be administered but a prescription is needed.
Iowa	Can administer vaccines recommended by CDC Health Information for International Travel without a prescription. Prescription needed for other vaccines.
Maryland	Can administer vaccines recommended by CDC Health Information for International Travel without a prescription. Administration authority excludes other vaccines.



LIMITATIONS TO PHARMACISTS ADMINISTERING OTHER VACCINES LICENSED FOR USE IN THE U.S. TO ADULTS (18+)

State	Limitations and Other Considerations
Massachusetts	All other vaccines can be administered under a patient-specific collaborative practice agreement.
New York	Can administer other vaccines if Commissioner of Health determines a need in the state.
North Carolina	All other vaccines can be administered but a prescription is needed.
South Carolina	All other vaccines can be administered but a prescription is needed.
Utah	All other vaccines can be administered but a prescription is needed.





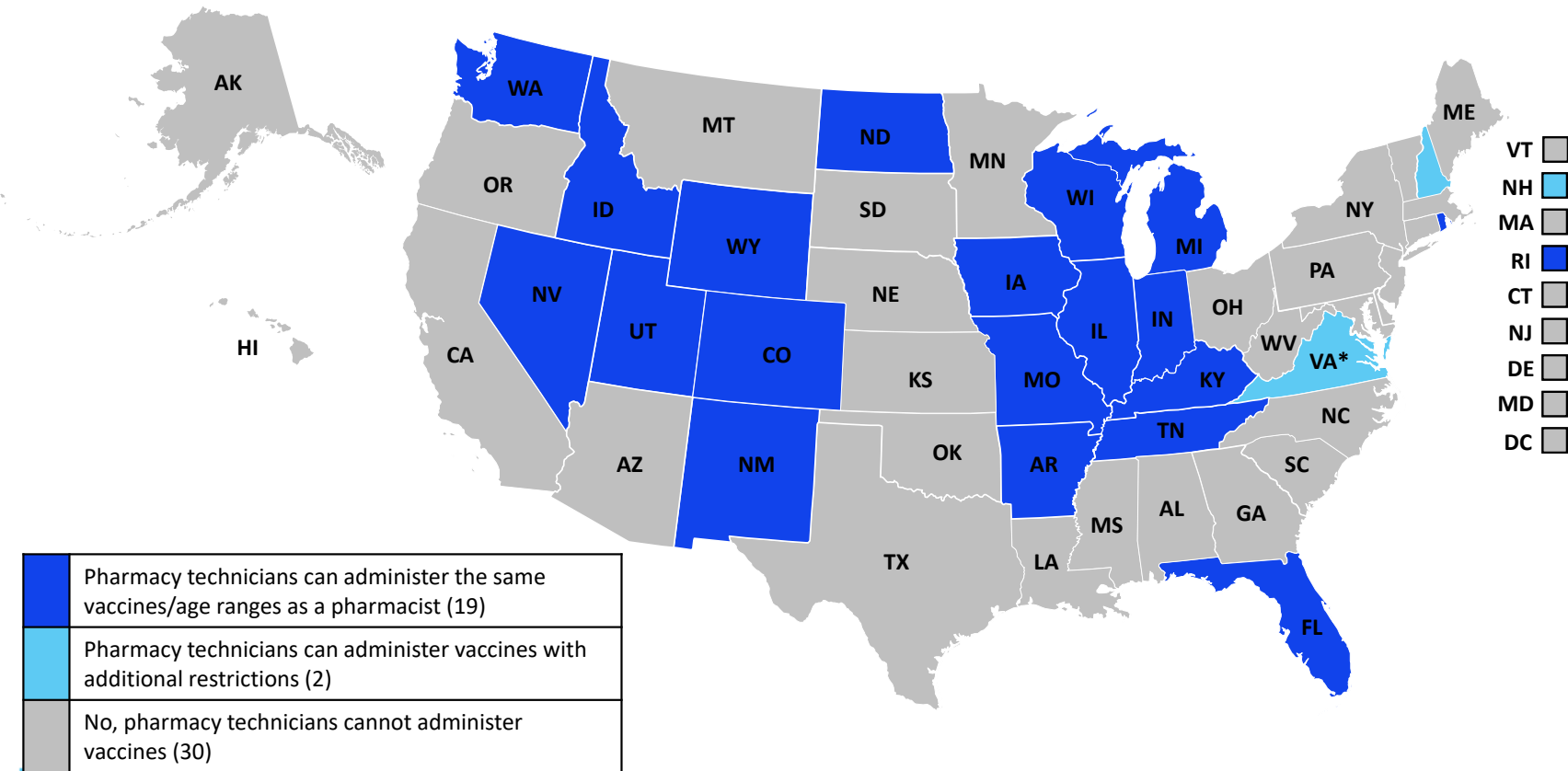
PHARMACY TECHNICIAN AUTHORITY

TEMPORARY FEDERAL IMMUNIZATION AUTHORITY – PHARMACY TECHNICIANS

- The Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to issue a PREP Act declaration. A PREP Act declaration is specifically for the purpose of providing immunity from liability, and is different from, and not dependent on, other emergency declarations.
- There are several **active PREP Act declarations related to COVID-19**, as well as General Counsel advisory opinions and HHS guidances. Some of those declarations and guidances have a significant impact on immunization authority for pharmacy technicians.
- **HHS Guidance – Pharmacy Technicians & Interns Administer**
 - Authorizes pharmacy technicians to administer both childhood vaccines (ages 3-18) and COVID-19 vaccine (ages 3 and older)
- **Eighth Amendment – Authorization for Influenza Vaccine**
 - Authorizes qualified pharmacy technicians and interns to administer seasonal influenza vaccines (ages 19 and older)



CAN PHARMACY TECHNICIANS ADMINISTER VACCINES?



ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON PHARMACY TECHNICIAN ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY

State	Additional Restrictions and Considerations
New Hampshire	Pharmacy technicians must be Licensed Advanced Pharmacy Technicians in order to administer vaccines but may administer all vaccines pharmacists are authorized to administer.
Virginia	Pharmacy technicians may administer vaccines included on CDC immunization schedules and COVID-19 vaccines to ages 3 and older.

