

Members of the HGO Committee

OPPOSE-HB1232-Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccines.

Dear Delegates,

I oppose HB1232 and respectfully request that you vote against it.

There is currently no state of emergency justifying the increased risk of expanding the scope of providers licensed to administer vaccines to children without assessing their full medical history and potential risk.

Pharmacists are not trained or equipped to obtain adequate medical history from each patient before administering vaccines to small children, particularly those aged 3-11. This bill would enable pharmacists to administer vaccines to small children without reviewing the child's medical chart, assessing contraindications, or evaluating the condition of the patient in the hours and days following the administration of the vaccine. Adverse reactions may be undetected and unreported to their primary care provider.

Expanding pharmacist administration of vaccines is not in the best interest of children, and it is not optimal for safety or for successful outcomes. Children are not vaccinated like adults and have a very complicated recommended schedule, sometimes receiving multiple vaccines at once.

I'm asking the HGO committee to OPPOSE HB1232.

Sincerely,
Linda Diefenbach
Middletown, MD