



Minnesota Board of Pharmacy

Variance & Policy Review Committee Report of October 8th, 2025

9:00 AM in the Big Stone Conference Room and via WebEx

Attendees: Ronda Marie Chakolis-Hassan, Brandon Ordway, Ame Carlson, Sarah Favour, Andrea Bistodeau, Mariah Sergot, Amanda Stewart, Marcus Arneson, Jonathan Fransen, Judith Zachariasen, Alison Kallas

For Board Meeting of October 22nd, 2025

Meeting Appointments

4116	Alix Rx LLC	
Policy	Policy review of unique identifiers of RDAC	Eden Prairie, MN
Request to add:267161	X Approved	267161
4383	Alix Rx LLC	
Policy	Policy Review of Central Service between Alix Rx LLC located in Eden Prairie, MN and Alix Rx LLC located in Bridgeville, PA.	Eden Prairie, MN / Bridgeville, PA
New	X Approved	263885, 267161
4384	Alix Rx LLC	
VAR	to allow for split certification between Alix Rx LLC located in Eden Prairie, MN and Alix Rx LLC located in Bridgeville, PA.	Eden Prairie, MN / Bridgeville, PA
New	X Approved 1 Year	263885, 267161
<i>Conditions that you follow your approved policies and procedures. Any changes in the policies and procedures would need to be highlighted and submitted for board approval prior to implementation. Additionally, the pharmacists and technicians at Alix Rx in Bridgeville PA must have current Minnesota Board of Pharmacy license or registration and be physically in the licensed pharmacy space when engaged in any dispensing steps for Alix Rx in Eden Prairie MN.</i>		
<i>What Board Will Need - with renewal provide a list of Minnesota licensed pharmacists and Minnesota registered technicians that are working at the Bridgeville PA pharmacy along with a summary of the number of times and the reasons why this variance was utilized.</i>		
4356	Alix Rx LLC	Eden Prairie, MN
Policy	Policy Review of Dosis Automated System	263885
Resubmission	X Approved	
4367	Allina Health System	15 MN Locations
Resubmission Denied 8/20	to allow the separation of the prescription certification process by more than one pharmacist on site within your own pharmacy and the following Allina Health retail locations - Apple Valley, Cambridge, Cottage Grove, Faribault, Heart Hospital, Mercy, New Ulm, Piper Building, St. Francis, United, Unity, Westhealth, Woodbury and Coon Rapids (Hub and Spoke model)	
	X Approved 1 Year	
<i>Conditions - that you follow all applicable DEA regulations related to central filling of controlled substances.</i>		
4369	Allina Health System	Minneapolis, MN
Resubmission Denied 8/20	Policy review of Parata Max2 Plus Automation	267171
	X Approved	
4370	Allina Health System	15 MN Locations
Resubmission Denied 8/20	Policy review of central service	

4385	Hy-Vee, Inc.	
Policy	Policy Review of Central Service between Hy-Vee Pharmacy Fulfillment Center (4069) located in Sioux Falls, SD and 4 MN located Pharmacies	Fairmont, MN / Marshall, MN / Worthington, MN / Windom, MN
New	X Approved	263836, 261907, 263659, 265719
4386	Hy-Vee, Inc.	
VAR	to allow for split certification between Hy-Vee Pharmacy Fulfillment Center (4069) located in Sioux Falls, SD and 4 MN located Pharmacies	Fairmont, MN / Marshall, MN / Worthington, MN / Windom, MN
(1/1/0001)		
New	X Approved 1 year Conditions - that you counsel as required in your policies and procedures. What Board Will Need - with renewal provide a list of Minnesota licensed pharmacists and Minnesota registered technicians that are working at the Sioux Falls SD pharmacy that are engaged in providing central services to the Minnesota located pharmacies.	263836, 261907, 263659, 265719
4387	Hy-Vee Pharmacy Fulfillment Center (4069)	Sioux Falls, SD
Policy	Policy Review of Automation for Hy-Vee Pharmacy Fulfillment Center (4069) located in Sioux Falls, SD	Pending Application
New	X Approved	

4382	Trinity Pharmacy LLC	
POLICY	Policy Review of Pyxis BD Medbank for first dose and emergency Ekit drugs	
NEW		267126
	Not Approved due to policy and procedures do not address afterhours process for removal of controlled substances, PIC oversight of discrepancy reports for controlled substances, and unclear quantities for Ekit controlled substances. Also revise Repackaging Policy to verbiage used in regulations for pharmacy 'Prepackaging'.	

Policy Reviews & Variances

4376	Guardian Pharmacy of Minneapolis, LLC	
Policy	Policy review of Synmed Ultra automated counting device	Eden Prairie, MN
NEW	Not Approved due to submission was lacking procedures for appropriate BUD assignment to the canister label as well as the finished filled prescription's label and accuracy of technician's transcription of drug information into the packaging control record when not verified by pharmacist or use of 2D matrix Scan	266310

3706	Mayo Clinic Health System - Lake City	Lake City, MN - 261637 Austin, MN - 264086 Albert Lea, MN - 265478 Red Wing, MN - 200439 Cannon Falls, MN 265478
VAR	to allow two certified pharmacy technicians to waste controlled substances, instead of two licensed individuals (conditions-that the involved pharmacies have a robust auditing system and the documentation of the audits are readily retrievable for the Board)	
Renewal 10/25/25		
	Conditions: that the involved pharmacies have a robust auditing system and the documentation of the audits are readily retrievable for the Board	

X Approved
3 Years

Conditions - that the involved pharmacies have a robust auditing system and the documentation of the audits are readily retrievable for the Board

4293 GuidePoint

Longville, MN - 264101

Renewal
10/9/25

to allow exemptions from the Board's rules regarding having a pharmacist on duty at all times that the telepharmacy is open and to be serviced by Breezy Point with Nisswa, Brainerd, and Crosby serving as emergency backup pharmacies.

Conditions: standard telepharmacy

X Approved
1 Year

Conditions - standard telepharmacy. Additionally, Please note that Minnesota is not an offer to counsel state as MN Rule 6800.0910 reads in part, "a pharmacist shall personally initiate discussion of matters which in the professional judgment of the pharmacist will enhance or optimize drug therapy with each patient or the agent or caregiver of the patient." It is after the initiation of the counseling by the pharmacist when the patient may decline the consultation, initial the counseling ticket printed at pickup and indicate the reason for refusal, as indicated in your policy.

What the Board will need, within 30 days, is that the Quality Improvement Report and (error) summary Trending Report be provided as requested in the 2024 variance letter.

3310 GuidePoint

Longville, MN - 264101
Brainerd, MN - 261373
Crosby, MN - 262704

Renewal

to allow an exemption from the Board's rule regarding direct supervision of Conditions: Standard telepharmacy.

X Approved
1 Year

Conditions - standard telepharmacy. Additionally, Please note that Minnesota is not an offer to counsel state as MN Rule 6800.0910 reads in part, "a pharmacist shall personally initiate discussion of matters which in the professional judgment of the pharmacist will enhance or optimize drug therapy with each patient or the agent or caregiver of the patient." It is after the initiation of the counseling by the pharmacist when the patient may decline the consultation, initial the counseling ticket printed at pickup and indicate the reason for refusal, as indicated in your policy.

What the Board will need, within 30 days, is that the Quality Improvement Report and (error) summary Trending Report be provided as requested in the 2024 variance letter.

4377

Pharmacy Corporation of America

Policy
NEW

Policy Review of Dosis Automated Dispensing System

Fridley, MN

Not Approved Policy was generic in nature. Submission was lacking specific policies and procedures to meet Minnesota Rule 6800.2600 elements and did not address appropriate BUD assignment to the canister label as well as the finished filled prescription's label

261548

3009

Pharmacy Corporation of America

VAR

to allow a greater number of permitted first dose and emergency medications in the

Fridley, MN

Reinstatement
Exp 6/16/24

Conditions: On the following conditions: 1. that the quantities do not exceed a 72 hour supply (usually reserved for non-traditional facilities); 2. any changes to the Ekit content must be determined by the quality assurance and assessment committee or equivalent; and 3. any policy and/or Ekit content changes are to be highlighted within the policies and submitted for board approval prior to implementation

261548

X Denied

Submission is lacking proposed drug list for which the pharmacy is asking a variance to. Submission is incomplete and unable to assess if the request is equivalent or superior to the rule.

3173

Pharmacy Corporation of America

VAR
Renewal
(3/16/2025)

to allow the separation of the prescription dispensing process including verification, drug utilization review (DUR) and/or certification for new or refillable prescriptions, by more than one pharmacist on site - (Conditions-general) Fridley, MN

Conditions: that you follow your approved policies and procedures. Any changes in the policies and procedures would need to be highlighted and submitted for board approval prior to implementation 261548

X Approved

2 Years

Conditions - Same and reminder for more timely renewals.

4010

Sanford Health of Northern Minnesota

VAR
Reinstatement
PIC Change to
Ryan Stevens
Exp 1/28/25

to allow the pharmacy to utilize a non-contiguous office space to store pharmacy Bemidji, MN
Conditions: that the pharmacist-in-charge remains the same (Paula Jones) 266638

X Approved

Indefinitely

Conditions - that the pharmacist-in-charge remains the same (Ryan Stevens)

3379

St. Francis Regional Medical

VAR
Renewal
10/25/25

to allow the separation of the prescription dispensing process including verification, drug utilization review (DUR) and/or certification for new or refillable prescriptions, by more than one pharmacist, either on-site or off-site, between your pharmacy, Cambridge Medical Center, St. Francis Regional Medical Center Pharmacy, and Mercy Hospital-Unity Campus for TPN preparations Coon Rapids, MN-260411
Cambridge, MN-200635
Shakopee, M -200746
Fridley, MN-260414

X Approved

3 Years

4378

The Saint Cloud Hospital

VAR
NEW

to allow a 5% daily audit of all dispenses from the XR2 System to replace accuracy check/certification of every dispense by a pharmacist or pharmacist intern. St Cloud, MN
200440

X Denied

Pharmacy will need to resubmit variance request with supporting data from Accuracy Validation study along with a policy review request for automation (6800.2600)

4269

Thrifty Drug Stores, Inc.

VAR
Renewal
Exp 10/18/25

allow the use of an expanded Ekit. Moose Lake, MN
Conditions: that the pharmacy ensures that pharmacy staff have appropriate clearance to the facility to maintain continuity of care for patients, that any policy and/or Ekit content changes are highlighted and submitted for Board approval prior to implementation 262429

X Approved

2 Years

Conditions - Same

4375

Trinity Pharmacy LLC

VAR NEW	to supply The Pillars Hospice House with emergency medications in an Ekit Conditions:	Arden Hills, MN 267126
	X <i>Denied</i> <i>due to proposed medications stocked in the emergency kit does not align with the Facility's approved drug list from MDH, and the policy lacking a clear process for how the facility nurses access the controlled substances afterhours and how the controlled substances are counted every 24 hours while at the facility.</i>	
4365 VAR Resubmission Denied 8/20	Trinity Pharmacy LLC to allow the pharmacy to automatically exchange emergency kits on a twice-weekly Conditions:	Arden Hills, MN 267126
	X <i>Approved</i> 1 year Conditions - that the pharmacist-in-charge remains the same and any policy changes are to be highlighted within the policies and submitted for Board approval prior to implementation	

4035 VAR Permanent PIC Change to Julia Rabey 6/9/25	Walgreen Co. to allow the pharmacy to utilize a non-contiguous space as a patient care room - (Conditions-that the pharmacist-in-charge remains the same, there is no drug storage in this space as indicated in the related policy, and that there is direct supervision of pharmacy interns while they are in this space) Conditions: that the pharmacist-in-charge remains the same, there is no drug storage in this space as indicated in the related policy, and that there is direct supervision of pharmacy interns while they are in this space	Duluth, MN - 200871
	X <i>Approved</i> Indefinitely Conditions - same conditions and that the space passes an inspection by a Board surveyor .	

2938 VAR Renewal 10/25/25	West Side Community Health Services, Inc. to allow the separation of the prescription dispensing process including verification, drug utilization review (DUR) and/or certification for new or refillable prescriptions, by more than one pharmacist, either on-site at West Side Community Health Services, Inc. (dba) East Side Family Clinic Pharmacy or off-site at West Side Community Health Services Pharmacy	St Paul, MN - 262084 St Paul, MN - 263192
	X <i>Approved</i> 2 Years	

#TBD VAR Pending Change in Ownership	Lewis Family Drug to allow for split certification between Lewis Drug #50 located in Sioux Falls, SD and Lewis Drug #33 in Graceville, MN, Lewis Drug #35 in Ortonville, MN, Lewis Drug #36 in Appleton, MN, Lewis Drug #40 in Tracy, MN, Lewis Drug #45 in St. James, MN, Lewis Drug #46 in Pipestone, MN, Lewis Drug #51 in Luverne, MN, Lewis Drug #56 in Windom, MN, Lewis Drug #75 in Jackson, MN, Lewis Drug #76 in Lakefield, MN, and Lewis Drug #79 in Madelia, MN for filling unit dose cards for LTC patient. (Hub and Spoke model)	11 MN Locations Sioux Falls, SD
	X <i>Approved</i> same date: 6/18/2026 Conditions - that the pharmacy provides the long-term care patients with proper notification since they would not see the signage posted in a pharmacy.	
#TBD	Lewis Family Drug	

VAR Policy Review of Central Filling of unit dose cards for LTC patients by Lewis Drug
Pending Change in Ownership #50 located in Sioux Falls, SD for 11 Lewis Drug Pharmacies located in MN

X Approved

#TBD **Lewis Family Drug #50** Sioux Falls, SD(#11)
Policy Policy Review of Unique Identifiers for PioneerRx PIN identifier. Sioux Falls, SD(#50)
Pending Change in Ownership 11 MN Locations

X Approved

#TBD **Lewis Family Drug** 11 MN Locations
Policy Policy Review of Central Filling of Medication Adherence Packaging(SmartPack) by Sioux Falls, SD
Pending Change in Ownership Lewis Drug #11 located in Sioux Falls, SD for 11 Lewis Drug Pharmacies located in Minnesota

X Approved

#TBD **Lewis Family Drug** 11 MN Locations
VAR to allow for split certification between Lewis Drug #11 located in Sioux Falls, SD and Sioux Falls, SD
Pending Change in Ownership Lewis Drug #33 in Graceville, Lewis Drug #35 in Ortonville, Lewis Drug #36 in Appleton, Lewis Drug #40 in Tracy, Lewis Drug #45 in St. James, Lewis Drug #46 in Pipestone, Lewis Drug #51 in Luverne, Lewis Drug #56 in Windom, Lewis Drug #75 in Jackson, Lewis Drug #76 in Lakefield, and Lewis Drug #79 in Madelia for filling medication adherence packaging. (Hub and Spoke model)

X Approved
same date: 6/18/2026

1125 Allina Health System

VAR to allow remote pharmacy after hours order review and entry of physician Cambridge, MN - 200635
Renewal medication orders by St. Francis Regional Medical Center Pharmacy when the Owatonna, MN - 260447
10/25/25 hospital pharmacy is closed from normal business hours of operation New Ulm, MN - 260416
Hastings, MN - 264271

Conditions: Standard after hours.

X Approved
2 Years
Conditions - Same

1121 St. Francis Regional Medical Shakopee, MN - 200746

VAR to allow remote pharmacy after hours order review and entry of physician
Renewal medication orders by St. Francis Regional Medical Center Pharmacy for Owatonna

X Approved
2 Years
Conditions - Same

4379 Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Government

VAR To allow the pharmacist to be the PIC at both Vermillion Pharmacy and Boise Forte Nett Lake, MN - 261489
NEW Medical Clinic Pharmacy Tower, MN - 265249

X Denied

due to policy and procedures need to be revised to provide clarity related to pharmacist certification of the final filled prescription via live video feed, access to telepharmacy restricted to certified pharmacy technicians and only when a pharmacist is on duty (either onsite or remotely), and that the telepharmacy prescription records remain onsite at the dispensing pharmacy.

4380 Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Government

VAR To allow the Pharmacist at Vermillion Pharmacy(Hub) in Tower, MN to supervise Net Lake, MN - 261489
NEW technicians at Bois Forte Medical Clinic in Net Lake, MN remotely. Tower, MN - 265249

X Denied

due to policy and procedures need to be revised to provide clarity related to pharmacist certification of the final filled prescription via live video feed, access to telepharmacy restricted to certified pharmacy technicians and only when a pharmacist is on duty (either onsite or remotely), and that the telepharmacy prescription records remain onsite at the dispensing pharmacy.

4381 Bois Forte Medical Clinic Pharmacy

VAR To allow Bois Forte Medical Clinic Pharmacy in Net Lake, MN to utilize Net Lake, MN - 261489
NEW telepharmacy services via Vermillion Pharmacy in Tower, MN

X Denied

due to policy and procedures need to be revised to provide clarity related to pharmacist certification of the final filled prescription via live video feed, access to telepharmacy restricted to certified pharmacy technicians and only when a pharmacist is on duty (either onsite or remotely), and that the telepharmacy prescription records remain onsite at the dispensing pharmacy.

Deferred to the Board

2877 Fairview Pharmacy Services, LLC

VAR to allow a technician to pharmacist ratio of 4:1 in the main call center area (limited Shoreview, MN - 267207
PIC Change to Tori to phone technician job description) - (revisions sent on 4/13/18 to include a
Grier 11/7/25 designated area in the adjacent call center room) - (revisions sent on 2/11/22 to the
2/26/28 seating chart) - (Conditions-Tied to PIC Jacob Hansen and not transferable)

Conditions: that the PIC does not change and that you follow your approved policies and procedures. Any changes in the policies and procedures would need to be highlighted and submitted for Board approval prior to implementation

X Approved

2 Years

Conditions - Same

4203 Fairview Pharmacy Services, LLC

VAR to allow the pharmacy to utilize a non-contiguous shared office space to perform to Edina, MN - 262914
Renewal perform limited dispensing activities including stage checking, preliminary order
10/25/25 verification, and quality assurance checking

Conditions: that you follow your approved policies and procedures. Any changes in the policies and procedures would need to be highlighted and submitted for Board approval prior to implementation

X Approved

3 Years

Conditions - Same

4204 Fairview Pharmacy Services, LLC

VAR
Renewal
10/25/25

to allow the pharmacy to utilize a non-contiguous space in exam room 1 for the storage of supplies, fluids, and refrigerated drugs and to perform to perform limited dispensing activities including stage checking, preliminary order verification, and quality assurance checking.

Edina, MN - 262914

Conditions: that you follow your approved policies and procedures. Any changes in the policies and procedures would need to be highlighted and submitted for Board approval prior to implementation.

X *Approved*
3 Years
Conditions - Same

4170

Essentia Health Superior Belknap Pharmacy

VAR
Renewal
9/13/2025

to allow the pharmacy to provide an emergency kit at Solvay Hospice House -
Conditions: that you follow your approved policies and procedures. Any changes in the policies and procedures and/or Ekit drugs would need to be submitted for Board approval prior to implementation

Superior, WI
266760

X *Approved*
2 Years
Conditions - Same

Information for Discussion

3856

Coram CVS Specialty Infusion
2025 Quarter 2 Error Report
Reviewed