

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE DIVISION[645]

Notice of Intended Action

**Proposing rule making related to use of injectables by licensed optometrists
and providing an opportunity for public comment**

The Board of Optometry hereby proposes to amend Chapter 182, “Practice of Optometrists,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 272C.2 and 272C.4.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 154.1(3).

Purpose and Summary

These amendments are proposed pursuant to 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 310, allowing optometrists to administer injectables if the optometrists are certified by the Board of Optometry. This rule making states the prescribed injections and establishes the educational training requirements that must be completed by a licensed optometrist for approval to use injectables.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

A waiver provision is not included in this rule making because all administrative rules of the professional licensure boards in the Professional Licensure Division are subject to the waiver provisions accorded under 645—Chapter 18.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 2, 2021. Comments should be directed to:

Sharon Dozier
Professional Licensure Division
Iowa Department of Public Health
Lucas State Office Building
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Phone: 515.281.6352
Email: sharon.dozier@idph.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

February 2, 2021
10 to 10:30 a.m.

Fifth Floor Board Conference Room 526
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Persons who wish to make oral comments at the public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rule making. In an effort to ensure accuracy in memorializing a person's comments, a person may provide written comments in addition to or in lieu of oral comments at the hearing.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Board and advise of specific needs.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** rule 645—182.5(154):

645—182.5(154) Use of injectables. A licensed optometrist shall not administer any injection prior to receiving approval from the board. Upon approval from the board, a licensed optometrist may administer only the following injections:

182.5(1) Subconjunctival injections for the medical treatment of the eye.

182.5(2) Intralesional injections for the treatment of chalazia.

182.5(3) Botulinum toxin to the muscles of facial expression innervated by the facial nerve, including for cosmetic purposes.

182.5(4) Injections to counteract an anaphylactic reaction.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** rule 645—182.6(154):

645—182.6(154) Education and training approval.

182.6(1) The board shall not approve the use of injections other than to counteract an anaphylactic reaction unless the licensed optometrist demonstrates to the board sufficient educational or clinical training from a college or university accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization which is recognized or approved by the council for higher education accreditation or by the United States Department of Education, or clinical training equivalent to clinical training offered by such an institution.

182.6(2) A licensed optometrist who completes the requirements of rule 645—182.7(154) is deemed approved by the board for use of injectables as outlined in this chapter.

ITEM 3. Adopt the following **new** rule 645—182.7(154):

645—182.7(154) Education and training. In order to use injections, a licensed optometrist shall meet the following requirements for board approval:

182.7(1) Be fully licensed and in good standing within the state of Iowa as a licensed optometrist.

182.7(2) Have completed a total of 24 hours of approved educational training pertaining to injections.

a. At least 4 hours of the 24 hours must be clinical training.

b. At least 5 hours of the 24 hours must pertain to the administration and side effects of injection treatment for botulinum toxin and chalazia.

182.7(3) Any practitioner exercising injection privileges must be able to produce proof of completion of requirements at the request of the board.