

**657—6.7(124,155A) Security.** While on duty, each pharmacist shall be responsible for the security of the prescription department, including provisions for effective control against theft of, diversion of, or unauthorized access to prescription drugs, records for such drugs, and patient records as provided in 657—Chapter 21.

**6.7(1) *Department locked.*** The prescription department shall be locked by key or combination so as to prevent access when a pharmacist is not on site except as provided in subrule 6.7(2).

**6.7(2) *Temporary absence of pharmacist.*** In the temporary absence of the pharmacist, only the pharmacist in charge may designate persons who may be present in the prescription department to perform technical and nontechnical functions designated by the pharmacist in charge. Activities identified in subrule 6.7(3) may not be performed during such temporary absence of the pharmacist. A temporary absence is an absence of short duration not to exceed two hours. In the absence of the pharmacist, the pharmacy shall notify the public that the pharmacist is temporarily absent and that no prescriptions will be dispensed until the pharmacist returns.

**6.7(3) *Activities prohibited in absence of pharmacist.*** Activities which shall not be designated and shall not be performed during the temporary absence of the pharmacist include:

- a. Dispensing or distributing any prescription drugs or devices to patients or others.
- b. Providing the final verification for the accuracy, validity, completeness, or appropriateness of a filled prescription or medication order.
- c. Conducting prospective drug use review or evaluating a patient's medication record for purposes identified in rule 657—8.21(155A).
- d. Providing patient counseling, consultation, or drug information.
- e. Making decisions that require a pharmacist's professional judgment such as interpreting or applying information.
- f. Transferring prescriptions to or from other pharmacies.