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During the 2025 Legislative Session, the Idaho Legislature determined that “ivermectin suitable for human use may be sold or purchased as an over-the-counter medication in this state without a prescription or consultation with a health care professional.” S1211 (2025); I.C. § 37-135. The law became effective on April 14, 2025.

Some licensees have requested guidance from the Board of Pharmacy regarding how to comply with Senate Bill 1211. As with all other questions regarding the practice of pharmacy within the State of Idaho, the Board points licensees to the general standard of care approach contained in Idaho Code § 54-1705 for the licensee or registrant’s “independent[] determin[ation.]”

As applied specifically to this new section of Idaho Code, 37-135, selling human-grade ivermectin to patients “without a prescription or consultation” will not violate Idaho State law. Furthermore, dispensing ivermectin as an over-the-counter medication, pursuant to this law, does not violate the State’s Pharmacy Practice Act, Idaho’s Controlled Substances Act, or any other rules of the Board of Pharmacy.

Insofar as federal law may require prescription drugs, as designated by the Food and Drug Administration, to be dispensed only by prescription, see I.C. § 54-1734. For other concerns regarding federal law, the Board invites licensees to consult with their own legal counsel.

Currently, prescription-grade ivermectin packaging does not include directions on dosages for off-label purposes. Therefore, to better assist patients, some licensees may find it appropriate to handle ivermectin similar to other over-the-counter medications that are stored behind the counter but sold without a prescription or prior healthcare professional consultation, such as pseudoephedrine, emergency contraceptives, OTC insulin, and other diabetes supplies. Pharmacists may then offer (though not require) counseling to patients on proper dosage amounts, potential drug-drug interactions, and symptoms of ivermectin toxicity for which to monitor when taking this medication.