

FINAL/APPROVED

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHARMACY
MINUTES OF AD HOC COMMITTEE ON HEALTH DATA**

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive
Henrico, Virginia 23233

CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of an Ad Hoc Committee on Health Data was called to order at 1:00 PM.

PRESIDING: **Wendy Nash**, PharmD, Chair

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Shannon Dowdy**, PharmD
Larry Kocot, JD (left at 2:45 PM)
Tim Robertson, RPh

STAFF PRESENT: **Sorayah Haden**, Executive Assistant
Caroline Juran, RPh, Executive Director
Ryan Logan, RPh, Deputy Executive Director
Beth O'Halloran, RPh, Deputy Executive Director
Ellen Shinaberry, PharmD, Deputy Executive Director (left at 2:45 PM)
Yetty Shobo, PhD, DHP Healthcare Workforce Data Center and Data Analytics Division Director (left at 2:45 PM)

**PHARMACISTS AWARDED
1-HOUR OF LIVE OR REAL-
TIME INTERACTIVE
CONTINUING EDUCATION
FOR ATTENDING MEETING:** Wendy Nash, PharmD - 0202006209
Tim Robertson, RPh - 0202010759

QUORUM With all members of the committee present, a quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda was approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The Virginia Pharmacist Association provided written public comment via email. The written public comment was provided as a handout for the

committee to review. The written comment expressed VPhA's support of the Health Data Committee and explained the importance of providing the data to the workforce. The comment highlighted Ohio's efforts in collecting and providing collected data. Additionally, the comment provided example questions that they would like to be considered and included in future workforce surveys.

OPENING REMARKS:

Dr. Nash welcomed the committee and stated that her objectives of the committee included achieving goals that align with the mission of the Virginia Department of Health Professions. She commented that she is interested in learning the new Governor's expectations of the Virginia Board of Pharmacy. Mr. Kocot encouraged the committee to discuss ways to use the data already collected and that which may be collected in the future. Based on federal legislation under consideration that would identify critical access pharmacies that would potentially be reimbursed at a higher rate, he believes it may be important to learn what services each pharmacy in Virginia is currently providing. He suggested that the Committee focus on identifying 1) what data is needed, 2) why it is needed, and 3) how we would use it.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

The Committee briefly reviewed Va. Code § 54.1-2506.1, included in the agenda packet, regarding the consultation role of the Board in establishing criteria to identify additional data elements deemed necessary for workforce and health planning purposes.

The Committee discussed freely the following discussion topics listed on the agenda: Inventory and review data currently being collected by the Board; Assess gaps in data collected to meet the needs of the Board; Identify additional data elements that the Board may recommend that the Department collect for workforce and health planning purposes; To the extent possible, identify alternative sources for collection of the data and provide rationale and assessment of the feasibility and any known constraints for collecting these additional data; To the extent feasible, explore other states' data collection and reporting initiatives to determine best practices with a goal towards consistent data collection for reporting across multiple states.

The following matters were raised and discussed:

Pharmacy Technicians

There were general comments regarding the number of pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees, where the trainees may be working, and if the educational changes that became effective on July 1, 2025 have resulted in an increase in the number of trainees. There was some discussion regarding data previously compiled by Dr. Shobo and shared by Mr. Logan regarding the relatively low percentage of trainees who ultimately obtain a pharmacy

technician registration. It was wondered if anyone has ever studied why trainees don't follow through to become pharmacy technicians or long they stay in the profession. There was some discussion regarding the two-year allowance for a pharmacy technician trainee to complete a pharmacy technician training program, if that was too long, and if a reduction would increase the urgency and importance of completing a training program and obtaining registration as a pharmacy technician timely. It was noted that while it may be too long for those trainees electing to complete a PTCB or ExCPT-recognized training program, it may still be an appropriate length for those electing to complete an ASHP-ACPE-accredited training program. It was stated that the amount of training desired for pharmacy technician trainees in community pharmacies appears to differ from that which is desired by hospital pharmacies. There was also discussion regarding trainee applicants that apply for a second or third trainee registration because they were unable to complete the requirements prior to the first registration expiring, and that such applicants currently provide a narrative response on the application as to why a subsequent trainee registration is needed.

ACTION ITEM:

To collect data in a manner from which reports can be generated, staff will research with IT if a checkbox can be added to the pharmacy technician trainee registration application regarding why a subsequent trainee registration is needed.

ACTION ITEM:

Dr. Shobo will include current information in the chart she previously prepared that indicate the number of pharmacy technician trainees who obtain registration as a pharmacy technician annually, along with the average amount of time taken to obtain registration and provide this information to the Board at its June 2026 full board meeting.

Ms. Juran commented that the Virginia Pharmacy Congress may be sending her information requesting that an additional question on the pharmacy technician healthcare workforce survey report be added regarding advanced certifications the pharmacy technician may have obtained. This would need to be considered by the Board at its June board meeting.

Pharmacy Services

ACTION ITEM:

Staff will research with IT if a question can be included on the upcoming pharmacy permit renewals if the pharmacy currently provides clinical services under a collaborative practice agreement and/or statewide protocol.

Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Job Satisfaction

ACTION ITEM:

Using the aggregate data in the latest Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Healthcare Workforce Survey Reports, Dr. Shobo will

calculate the percentage of job satisfaction for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in each of the practice settings listed in the reports.

ACTION ITEM:

Mr. Kocot stated that he will invite a representative from the National Community Pharmacists Association to provide a presentation to the board on its pharmacy mapping tool at the March full board meeting.

Non-resident pharmacies

Acknowledging the trend that the number of pharmacies located within Virginia are decreasing while the number of nonresident pharmacies is increasing, the Committee expressed a desire to identify the nonresident pharmacies' type of practice as it has done for in-state pharmacies.

ACTION ITEM:

Staff will work with IT to develop a process for identifying each nonresident pharmacy's type of practice, e.g., independent, hospital, etc. as was done for in-state pharmacies.

ACTION ITEM:

Staff will run a report to identify in which states the registered nonresident pharmacies are located.

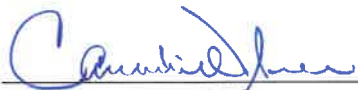
ACTION ITEM:

Staff will research the current trend of manufacturers participating in direct-to-consumer dispensing and if the dispensers are properly licensed in Virginia.

It was commented that pharmacies reducing their operating hours may be impacting patient access.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 PM.



Caroline Juran, RPh
Executive Director

3/20/2026

DATE: