

SENATE BILL NO. 158

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HENDERSON.

1133S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to insurance coverage of alternatives to opioid drugs.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 376.1280, to read as follows:

376.1280. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Elevated risk of opioid misuse", when an enrollee meets one or more of the following criteria, as determined by the prescribing health care professional:

(a) Current or previous history or diagnosis of a substance use disorder;

(b) Completed an advance healthcare directive to limit pain control to non-opioid measures as described in section 459.016;

(c) Increased risk for opioid overdose, dependency, or serious side effects based on the patient's age or diagnosis; or

(d) Currently prescribed medications with contraindications for opioid use;

(2) "Enrollee", the same meaning given to the term in section 376.1350;

18 (3) "Health benefit plan", the same meaning given to
19 the term in section 376.1350;

20 (4) "Health care professional", the same meaning given
21 to the term in section 376.1350;

22 2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
23 contrary, when a licensed health care professional acting
24 within the scope of his or her license prescribes a non-
25 opioid medication for the treatment of pain to a patient
26 with elevated risk of opioid misuse, it shall be unlawful
27 for a health benefit plan to:

28 (1) Deny coverage of the non-opioid prescription drug
29 in favor of an opioid prescription drug;

30 (2) Require the patient to try an opioid prescription
31 drug prior to providing coverage of the non-opioid
32 prescription drug; or

33 (3) Require a higher level of cost-sharing for the non-
34 opioid prescription drug than for an opioid prescription
35 drug.

36 3. No health benefit plan shall require a health care
37 professional or enrollee to submit documentation beyond the
38 prescribing health care professional's clinical notes to
39 determine whether an enrollee meets the criteria for
40 elevated risk of opioid misuse.

41 4. This section shall apply to health benefit plans
42 delivered, issued for delivery, continued, or renewed on or
43 after January 1, 2026.

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