STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

SENATE BILL 1033 By: Daniels

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to opioid drugs; amending 59 O.S. 2011, Section 509, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2018 (59 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 509), which relates to unprofessional conduct; modifying definition; amending 63 O.S. 2011, Section 2-309D, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2018 (63 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 2-309D), which relates to central repository; modifying provision related to disciplinary action; amending Section 5, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2018 (63 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 2-309I), which relates to prescription limits and rules for opioid drugs; deleting and modifying certain requirements related to prescriptions; modifying applicability of section; updating statutory reference; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2011, Section 509, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2018 (59 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 509), is amended to read as follows:

Section 509. The words "unprofessional conduct" as used in Sections 481 through 518.1 of this title are hereby declared to include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

1. Procuring, aiding or abetting a criminal operation;

2. The obtaining of any fee or offering to accept any fee, present or other form of remuneration whatsoever, on the assurance or promise that a manifestly incurable disease can or will be cured;

3. Willfully betraying a professional secret to the detriment of the patient;

4. Habitual intemperance or the habitual use of habit-forming drugs;

5. Conviction of a felony or of any offense involving moral turpitude;

6. All advertising of medical business in which statements are made which are grossly untrue or improbable and calculated to mislead the public;

7. Conviction or confession of a crime involving violation of:

a. the antinarcotic or prohibition laws and regulations of the federal government,

b. the laws of this state, or

c. State Board of Health rules;

8. Dishonorable or immoral conduct which is likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public;

9. The commission of any act which is a violation of the criminal laws of any state when such act is connected with the physician's practice of medicine. A complaint, indictment or confession of a criminal violation shall not be necessary for the

enforcement of this provision. Proof of the commission of the act while in the practice of medicine or under the guise of the practice of medicine shall be unprofessional conduct;

10. Failure to keep complete and accurate records of purchase and disposal of controlled drugs or of narcotic drugs;

11. The writing of false or fictitious prescriptions for any drugs or narcotics declared by the laws of this state to be controlled or narcotic drugs;

12. Prescribing or administering a drug or treatment without sufficient examination and the establishment of a valid physician-patient relationship;

13. The violation, or attempted violation, direct or indirect, of any of the provisions of the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act, either as a principal, accessory or accomplice;

14. Aiding or abetting, directly or indirectly, the practice of medicine by any person not duly authorized under the laws of this state;

15. The inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of age, illness, drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition. In enforcing this subsection the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision may, upon probable cause, request a physician to submit

to a mental or physical examination by physicians designated by it. If the physician refuses to submit to the examination, the Board shall issue an order requiring the physician to show cause why the physician will not submit to the examination and shall schedule a hearing on the order within thirty (30) days after notice is served on the physician. The physician shall be notified by either personal service or by certified mail with return receipt requested. At the hearing, the physician and the physician's attorney are entitled to present any testimony and other evidence to show why the physician should not be required to submit to the examination. After a complete hearing, the Board shall issue an order either requiring the physician to submit to the examination or withdrawing the request for examination. The medical license of a physician ordered to submit for examination may be suspended until the results of the examination are received and reviewed by the Board;

16. a. Prescribing, dispensing or administering of controlled substances or narcotic drugs in excess of the amount considered good medical practice, or

b. prescribing, dispensing or administering controlled substances or narcotic drugs without medical need in accordance with pertinent licensing board standards, ~~or~~

~~c. prescribing, dispensing or administering opioid drugs in excess of the maximum dosage authorized under Section 5 of this act~~;

17. Engaging in physical conduct with a patient which is sexual in nature, or in any verbal behavior which is seductive or sexually demeaning to a patient;

18. Failure to maintain an office record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation, treatment, and medical necessity of treatment of the patient;

19. Failure to provide necessary ongoing medical treatment when a doctor-patient relationship has been established, which relationship can be severed by either party providing a reasonable period of time is granted; or

20. Failure to provide a proper and safe medical facility setting and qualified assistive personnel for a recognized medical act, including but not limited to an initial in-person patient examination, office surgery, diagnostic service or any other medical procedure or treatment. Adequate medical records to support diagnosis, procedure, treatment or prescribed medications must be produced and maintained.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 2-309D, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2018 (63 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 2-309D), is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-309D. A. The information collected at the central repository pursuant to the Anti-Drug Diversion Act shall be confidential and shall not be open to the public. Access to the information shall be limited to:

1. Peace officers certified pursuant to Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes who are employed as investigative agents of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control;

2. The United States Drug Enforcement Administration Diversion Group Supervisor;

3. The executive director or chief investigator, as designated by each board, of the following state boards:

a. Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners,

b. Board of Dentistry,

c. State Board of Pharmacy,

d. State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision,

e. State Board of Osteopathic Examiners,

f. State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners,

g. Oklahoma Health Care Authority,

h. Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services,

i. Board of Examiners in Optometry,

j. Board of Nursing,

k. Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and

1. State Board of Health;

4. A multicounty grand jury properly convened pursuant to the Multicounty Grand Jury Act;

5. Medical practitioners employed by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the United States Military, or other federal agencies treating patients in this state; and

6. At the discretion of the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, medical practitioners and their staff, including those employed by the federal government in this state.

B. This section shall not prevent access, at the discretion of the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, to investigative information by peace officers and investigative agents of federal, state, county or municipal law enforcement agencies, district attorneys and the Attorney General in furtherance of criminal, civil or administrative investigations or prosecutions within their respective jurisdictions, designated legal, communications, and analytical employees of the Bureau, and to registrants in furtherance of efforts to guard against the diversion of controlled dangerous substances.

C. This section shall not prevent the disclosure, at the discretion of the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, of statistical information gathered from the central repository to the general public which shall be

limited to types and quantities of controlled substances dispensed and the county where dispensed.

D. This section shall not prevent the disclosure, at the discretion of the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, of prescription-monitoring-program information to prescription-monitoring programs of other states provided a reciprocal data-sharing agreement is in place.

E. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the State Department of Health may utilize the information in the central repository for statistical, research, substance abuse prevention, or educational purposes, provided that consumer confidentiality is not compromised.

F. Any unauthorized disclosure of any information collected at the central repository provided by the Anti-Drug Diversion Act shall be a misdemeanor. Violation of the provisions of this section shall be deemed willful neglect of duty and shall be grounds for removal from office.

G. 1. Registrants shall have access to the central repository for the purposes of patient treatment and for determination in prescribing or screening new patients. The patient's history may be disclosed to the patient for the purposes of treatment of information at the discretion of the physician.

2. a. Prior to prescribing or authorizing for refill, if one hundred eighty (180) days have elapsed prior to the

previous access and check, of opiates, synthetic opiates, semisynthetic opiates, benzodiazepine or carisoprodol to a patient of record, registrants or members of their medical or administrative staff shall be required until October 31, 2020, to access the information in the central repository to assess medical necessity and the possibility that the patient may be unlawfully obtaining prescription drugs in violation of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act. The duty to access and check shall not alter or otherwise amend appropriate medical standards of care. The registrant or medical provider shall note in the patient file that the central repository has been checked and may maintain a copy of the information.

b. The requirements set forth in subparagraph a of this paragraph shall not apply:

(1) to medical practitioners who prescribe the controlled substances set forth in subparagraph a of this paragraph for hospice or end-of-life care, or

(2) for a prescription of a controlled substance set forth in subparagraph a of this paragraph that is issued by a practitioner for a patient residing

in a nursing facility as defined by Section 1-1902 of this title, provided that the prescription is issued to a resident of such facility.

3. Registrants shall not be liable to any person for any claim of damages as a result of accessing or failing to access the information in the central repository and no lawsuit may be predicated thereon.

4. ~~The failure of a registrant to access and check the central repository as required under state or federal law or regulation shall be grounds for the licensing board of the registrant to take disciplinary action against the registrant~~ The appropriate licensing board may take disciplinary action against a registrant who fails to access and check the central repository as required under state or federal law, federal regulation or administrative rule.

H. The State Board of Podiatric Examiners, the State Board of Dentistry, the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, the State Board of Examiners in Optometry, the State Board of Nursing, the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners and the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners shall have the sole responsibility for enforcement of the provisions of subsection G of this section. Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to permit the Director of the State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs

Control to assess administrative fines provided for in Section 2-304 of this title.

I. The Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, or a designee thereof, shall provide a monthly list to the Directors of the State Board of Podiatric Examiners, the State Board of Dentistry, the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, the State Board of Examiners in Optometry, the State Board of Nursing, the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners and the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners of the top twenty prescribers of controlled dangerous substances within their respective areas of jurisdiction. Upon discovering that a registrant is prescribing outside the limitations of his or her licensure or outside of drug registration rules or applicable state laws, the respective licensing board shall be notified by the Bureau in writing. Such notifications may be considered complaints for the purpose of investigations or other actions by the respective licensing board. Licensing boards shall have exclusive jurisdiction to take action against a licensee for a violation of subsection G of this section.

J. Information regarding fatal and nonfatal overdoses, other than statistical information as required by Section 2-106 of this title, shall be completely confidential. Access to this information shall be strictly limited to the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control or designee, the

Chief Medical Examiner, state agencies and boards provided in subsection A of this section, and the registrant that enters the information. Registrants shall not be liable to any person for a claim of damages for information reported pursuant to the provisions of Section 2-105 of this title.

K. The Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control shall provide adequate means and procedures allowing access to central repository information for registrants lacking direct computer access.

L. Upon completion of an investigation in which it is determined that a death was caused by an overdose, either intentionally or unintentionally, of a controlled dangerous substance, the medical examiner shall be required to report the decedent's name and date of birth to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control shall be required to maintain a database containing the classification of medical practitioners who prescribed or authorized controlled dangerous substances pursuant to this subsection.

M. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs is authorized to provide unsolicited notification to the licensing board of a pharmacist or practitioner if a patient has received one or more prescriptions for controlled substances in quantities or with a frequency inconsistent with generally recognized standards of

safe practice or if a practitioner or prescriber has exhibited prescriptive behavior consistent with generally recognized standards indicating potentially problematic prescribing patterns. An unsolicited notification to the licensing board of the practitioner pursuant to this section:

1. Is confidential;

2. May not disclose information that is confidential pursuant to this section; and

3. May be in a summary form sufficient to provide notice of the basis for the unsolicited notification.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2018 (63 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 2-309I), is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-309I. A. A practitioner shall not issue an initial prescription for an opioid drug which is a prescription drug in a quantity exceeding a seven-day supply for treatment of acute pain for an adult patient, or a seven-day supply for treatment of acute pain for a patient under the age of eighteen (18) years old~~. Any prescription for acute pain pursuant to this subsection shall be for the lowest effective dose of immediate-release opioid drug~~.

B. Prior to issuing an initial prescription of a Schedule II controlled dangerous substance or any opioid drug that is a prescription drug in a course of treatment for acute or chronic pain, a practitioner shall:

1. Take and document the results of a thorough medical history, including the experience of the patient with nonopioid medication and nonpharmacological pain-management approaches and substance abuse history;

2. Conduct, as appropriate, and document the results of a physical examination;

3. Develop a treatment plan with particular attention focused on determining the cause of pain of the patient;

4. Access relevant prescription monitoring information from the central repository pursuant to Section 2-309D of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

5. Limit the supply of any opioid drug prescribed for acute pain to a duration of no more than seven (7) days as determined by the directed dosage and frequency of dosage;

6. In the case of a patient under the age of eighteen (18) years old, enter into a patient-provider agreement with a parent or guardian of the patient; and

7. In the case of a patient who is a pregnant woman, enter into a patient-provider agreement with the patient.

C. No less than seven (7) days after issuing the initial prescription pursuant to subsection A of this section, the practitioner, after ~~consultation~~ communicating with the patient, may issue a subsequent prescription for the drug to the patient in a quantity not to exceed seven (7) days, provided that:

1. The subsequent prescription would not be deemed an initial prescription under this section;

2. The practitioner determines the prescription is necessary and appropriate to the treatment needs of the patient and documents the rationale for the issuance of the subsequent prescription; and

3. The practitioner determines that issuance of the subsequent prescription does not present an undue risk of abuse, addiction or diversion and documents that determination.

D. Prior to issuing the initial prescription of a Schedule II controlled dangerous substance or any opioid drug that is a prescription drug in a course of treatment for acute or chronic pain and again prior to issuing the third prescription of the course of treatment, a practitioner shall discuss with the patient or the parent or guardian of the patient if the patient is under eighteen (18) years of age and is not an emancipated minor, the risks associated with the drugs being prescribed, including but not limited to:

1. The risks of addiction and overdose associated with opioid drugs and the dangers of taking opioid drugs with alcohol, benzodiazepines and other central nervous system depressants;

2. The reasons why the prescription is necessary;

3. Alternative treatments that may be available; and

4. Risks associated with the use of the drugs being prescribed, specifically that opioids are highly addictive, even when taken as

prescribed, that there is a risk of developing a physical or psychological dependence on the controlled dangerous substance, and that the risks of taking more opioids than prescribed or mixing sedatives, benzodiazepines or alcohol with opioids can result in fatal respiratory depression.

The practitioner shall include a note in the medical record of the patient that the patient or the parent or guardian of the patient, as applicable, has discussed with the practitioner the risks of developing a physical or psychological dependence on the controlled dangerous substance and alternative treatments that may be available. The applicable state licensing board of the practitioner shall develop and make available to practitioners guidelines for the discussion required pursuant to this subsection.

E. At the time of the issuance of the third prescription for a prescription opioid drug, the practitioner shall enter into a pain-management agreement with the patient.

F. When a Schedule II controlled dangerous substance or any prescription opioid drug is continuously prescribed for three (3) months or more for chronic pain, the practitioner shall:

1. Review, at a minimum of every three (3) months, the course of treatment, any new information about the etiology of the pain, and the progress of the patient toward treatment objectives and document the results of that review;

2. ~~Assess the patient prior to every renewal~~ At a minimum of every three (3) months, assess the patient to determine whether the patient is experiencing problems associated with physical and psychological dependence and document the results of that assessment;

3. Periodically make reasonable efforts, unless clinically contraindicated, to either stop the use of the controlled substance, decrease the dosage, try other drugs or treatment modalities in an effort to reduce the potential for abuse or the development of physical or psychological dependence and document with specificity the efforts undertaken;

4. Review the central repository information in accordance with Section 2-309D of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

5. Monitor compliance with the pain-management agreement and any recommendations that the patient seek a referral.

G. This section shall not apply to a prescription for a patient who is at least sixty (60) years of age, currently in active treatment for cancer, receiving hospice care from a licensed hospice or palliative care, or is a resident of a long-term care facility, or to any medications that are being prescribed for use in the treatment of substance abuse or opioid dependence.

H. Every policy, contract or plan delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this state, or approved for issuance or renewal in this state by the Insurance Commissioner, and every contract

purchased by the Employees Group Insurance Division of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, on or after ~~the effective date of this act~~ November 1, 2018, that provides coverage for prescription drugs subject to a copayment, coinsurance or deductible shall charge a copayment, coinsurance or deductible for an initial prescription of an opioid drug prescribed pursuant to this section that is either:

1. Proportional between the cost sharing for a thirty-day supply and the amount of drugs the patient was prescribed; or

2. Equivalent to the cost sharing for a full thirty-day supply of the opioid drug, provided that no additional cost sharing may be charged for any additional prescriptions for the remainder of the thirty-day supply.

I. Any provider authorized to prescribe opioids shall adopt and maintain a written policy or policies that include execution of a written agreement to engage in an informed consent process between the prescribing provider and qualifying opioid therapy patient. For the purposes of this section, "qualifying opioid therapy patient" means:

1. A patient requiring opioid treatment for more than three (3) months;

2. A patient who is prescribed benzodiazepines and opioids together; or

3. A patient who is prescribed a dose of opioids that exceeds one hundred (100) morphine equivalent doses.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

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