
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 341 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY KILLION, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHWANK AND STEFANO,
FEBRUARY 26, 2019

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
FEBRUARY 26, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), entitled
2 "An act requiring the licensing of practitioners of
3 osteopathic medicine and surgery; regulating their practice;
4 providing for certain funds and penalties for violations and
5 repeals," further providing for genetic counselor.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 10.3(c) of the act of October 5, 1978
9 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice
10 Act, is amended to read:

11 Section 10.3. Genetic counselor.

12 * * *

13 (c) Scope of practice.--

14 (1) A genetic counselor may provide genetic counseling
15 to clients, which includes:

16 (i) Obtain and evaluate individual and family
17 medical histories to determine genetic risk for genetic
18 or medical conditions and diseases in a patient and other
19 family members.

1 (ii) Discuss the features, natural history, means of
2 diagnosis, genetic and environmental factors and
3 management of risk for the genetic or medical conditions
4 and diseases.

5 (iii) Identify, order and coordinate genetic
6 laboratory tests and other diagnostic studies as
7 appropriate for the genetic assessment.

8 (iv) Integrate the genetic laboratory test results
9 and other diagnostic studies with personal and family
10 medical histories to assess and communicate risk factors
11 for genetic or medical conditions and diseases.

12 (v) Explain the clinical implications of genetic
13 laboratory tests and other diagnostic studies and their
14 results.

15 (vi) Evaluate the client's or family's responses to
16 the condition or risk of the recurrence and provide
17 client-centered counseling.

18 (vii) Identify and utilize community resources that
19 provide medical, educational, financial and psychosocial
20 support and advocacy.

21 (viii) Provide written documentation of medical,
22 genetic and counseling information for families and
23 health care professionals.

24 (2) When in the course of providing genetic counseling
25 services to a client, if a genetic counselor finds any
26 indication of a disease or condition that requires diagnosis
27 and treatment outside the scope of practice defined in this
28 section, the genetic counselor shall refer the client to a
29 licensed physician or appropriate health care practitioner.

30 (3) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to

1 authorize a genetic counselor to diagnose[, test] or treat
2 any genetic disease or condition or other disease or
3 condition.

4 * * *

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.