

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SMC
H. 827

Date: 4-11-14

(Filing No. H-827)

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1209,
L.D. 1686, Bill, "An Act To Address Preventable Deaths from Drug Overdose"

Amend the amendment in section 1 by striking out all of §2353 and inserting the following:

§2353. Naloxone hydrochloride

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Health care professional" means a person licensed under Title 32 who is authorized to prescribe naloxone hydrochloride.

B. "Immediate family" has the same meaning as in Title 21-A, section 1, subsection 20.

C. "Opioid-related drug overdose" means a condition including, but not limited to, extreme physical illness, decreased level of consciousness, respiratory depression, coma or death resulting from the consumption or use of an opioid, or another substance with which an opioid was combined, or a condition that a reasonable person would believe to be an opioid-related drug overdose that requires medical assistance.

2. Prescription; possession; administration. The prescription, possession and administration of naloxone hydrochloride is governed by this subsection.

A. A health care professional may prescribe naloxone hydrochloride to an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose.

B. An individual to whom naloxone hydrochloride is prescribed in accordance with paragraph A may provide the naloxone hydrochloride so prescribed to a member of that individual's immediate family to possess and administer to the individual if the family member believes in good faith that the individual is suffering an opioid-related drug overdose.

C. A health care professional may prescribe naloxone hydrochloride to a member of an individual's immediate family for administration to the individual in the event of an opioid-related drug overdose if:

HOUSE AMENDMENT

H. 82

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(1) The health care professional has an established health care professional-patient relationship with the individual; and

(2) The individual is at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose.

A health care professional who prescribes naloxone hydrochloride to a member of an individual's immediate family in accordance with this paragraph shall document in the individual's patient medical record the name of each family member who receives such a prescription and the health care professional's intention that the naloxone hydrochloride be administered to the individual.

D. If a member of an individual's immediate family is prescribed naloxone hydrochloride in accordance with paragraph C, that family member may administer the naloxone hydrochloride to the individual if the family member believes in good faith that the individual is experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose.

Nothing in this subsection affects the provisions of law relating to maintaining the confidentiality of medical records.

3. Authorized administration of naloxone hydrochloride by law enforcement officers and municipal firefighters. A law enforcement officer as defined in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 17 and a municipal firefighter as defined in Title 30-A, section 3151, subsection 2 may administer intranasal naloxone hydrochloride as clinically indicated.

4. Authorized administration of naloxone hydrochloride by emergency medical personnel. An advanced emergency medical technician, basic emergency medical services person, basic emergency medical technician, first responder and emergency medical services' person as defined in Title 32, section 83 may administer naloxone hydrochloride in accordance with the provisions of Title 32, chapter 2-B.'

SUMMARY

This amendment removes language in Committee Amendment "A" concerning exemptions from pharmacy license requirements for those who store or dispense opioid antagonists under standing orders from health care professionals and removes language authorizing collaborative practice between pharmacists and health care professionals with respect to naloxone hydrochloride. This amendment retains the provisions in Committee Amendment "A" that authorize emergency medical personnel, law enforcement officers and municipal firefighters to administer naloxone hydrochloride. In addition, this amendment replaces the language in Committee Amendment "A" governing the prescription, possession and administration of naloxone hydrochloride and instead specifically authorizes:

1. A health care professional to prescribe naloxone hydrochloride to an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose, and a member of that individual's immediate family to possess and administer naloxone hydrochloride to the individual if the family member believes in good faith that the individual is experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose;

HOUSE AMENDMENT

