



Testimony for Senate Bill 387

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

By Jody Reel, PharmD

Kansas Pharmacists Association, Topeka Kansas

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Chairwoman Schmidt and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Jody Reel, and I am a Kansas pharmacy owner and Chair of Government Affairs for the Kansas Pharmacists Association. The Kansas Pharmacists Association is the statewide professional association in Kansas that represents Kansas pharmacists from all practice settings. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on behalf of KPhA in support of Senate Bill 387. This bill expands the current scope of the Collaborative Drug Therapy Management Advisory Committee (CDTM) to include the creation of recommended statewide protocols for pharmacists.

The intent of SB 387 is to create a framework for the collaborative development of statewide protocols that have been identified as having high value and low risk to Kansas patients. This framework utilizes the existing CDTM to develop, implement and review protocols that would improve population health outcomes in the state. The CDTM Committee is comprised of physicians and pharmacists and was originally charged with developing recommended rules and regulations related to collaborative drug therapy management and collaborative practice agreements in Kansas. This new responsibility for the CDTM is a logical expansion of their current charge and brings Healing Arts providers and pharmacists together to determine the appropriate pharmacy practices to be governed by statewide protocols.

Upon development by the CDTM, the advisory committee would send their recommendations to the Board of Healing Arts and the Board of Pharmacy for acceptance. This process would ensure that both those in the healing arts and pharmacists would have the opportunity to provide input into which processes are appropriate to be placed in statewide protocols and which are not. The goal of this process is to have more input by healthcare professionals in the clinical specificities of these protocols, while working within the confines of the regulatory authority of the Board of Healing Arts and the Board of Pharmacy.

In this process, the CDTM can identify opportunities to better serve Kansas patients by allowing pharmacists to work as partners with physicians and other health care professions. Through this partnership, pharmacists will be able to provide services that they are trained to provide in a

low risk, easy to access environment. By having statewide protocols in place, pharmacists can help ease the burden by managing lower-risk patients or helping with preventative care.

Kansas is one of 25 other states who have statewide protocols. Other states have protocols allowing pharmacists to dispense antivirals for a positive influenza test, specific antibiotics for a positive rapid strep test, tobacco cessation regimens that are already over-the-counter, and travel health medications. By creating these via statute, we will have to continue to manage them via statute. This is evident in our immunization protocol, which we revisit the specific age pharmacists can administer periodically. Instead of managing the specifics regarding age restrictions, required pharmacists' training, and clinical contraindications in the legislative session, CDTM Committee could manage them year-around in more of a peer-review, collaborative system.

As health care providers, pharmacists recognize specific, unmet needs in our state's public health. We are dedicated to the protection of the patient and appropriate care, and see the value of SB 387 in helping deliver on both of these goals.

Thank you for your consideration of Senate Bill 387.



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