Session of 2020

HOUSE BILL No. 2579

By Committee on Health and Human Services

2-6

AN ACT concerning health professions and practices; relating to the board of pharmacy; prescription monitoring program act; pertaining to persons permitted to receive program data; data security; user and delegate access; increasing the number of members of the prescription monitoring program advisory committee; amending K.S.A. 65-1682, 65-1683, 65-1685, 65-1687 and 65-1689 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 65-1682 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-1682. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) *"Audit trail information" means information produced regarding requests for prescription monitoring program data that the board and advisory committee use to monitor compliance with this act.*

(b) "Board" means the state board of pharmacy.

(c) "Delegate" means:

(1) A registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, respiratory therapist, emergency medical responder, paramedic, dental hygienist, pharmacy technician or pharmacy intern who has registered for access to the program database as an agent of a practitioner or pharmacist to request program data on behalf of the practitioner or pharmacist;

(2) a death investigator who has registered for limited access to the program database as an agent of a medical examiner, coroner or another person authorized under law to investigate or determine causes of death; or

(3) an individual authorized to access the program database by the board in rules and regulations.

~~(b)~~*(d)* "Dispenser" means a practitioner*, pharmacy* or pharmacist who delivers a scheduled substance or drug of concern to an ultimate user, but does not include:

(1) A licensed hospital pharmacy that distributes such substances for the purpose of inpatient hospital care;

(2) a medical care facility as defined in K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto, practitioner or other authorized person who administers such a substance;

(3) a registered wholesale distributor of such substances;

(4) a veterinarian licensed by the Kansas board of veterinary examiners who dispenses or prescribes a scheduled substance or drug of concern; or

(5) a practitioner who has been exempted from the reporting requirements of this act in rules and regulations promulgated by the board.

~~(e)~~*(e)* "Drug of concern" means any drug that demonstrates a potential for abuse and is designated as a drug of concern in rules and regulations promulgated by the board.

~~(d)~~*(f)* "Patient" means the ~~person~~ *individual* who is the ultimate user of a drug for whom a prescription is issued or for whom a drug is dispensed, or both.

~~(e)~~*(g)* "Pharmacist" means an individual currently licensed by the board to practice the profession of pharmacy in this state.

(h) "Pharmacy" means a premises, laboratory, area or other place currently registered with the board where scheduled substances or drugs of concern are offered for sale or dispensed in this state.

~~(f)~~*(i)* "Practitioner" means ~~a person~~ *an individual* licensed to practice medicine and surgery, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or other ~~person~~ *individual* authorized by law to prescribe or dispense scheduled substances and drugs of concern.

~~(g)~~*(j) "Program" means the prescription monitoring program.*

(k) "Scheduled substance" means controlled substances included in schedules II, III or IV of the schedules designated in K.S.A. 65-4107, 65-4109 and 65-4111, and amendments thereto, respectively, or the federal controlled substances act ~~(~~21 U.S.C. § 812~~)~~.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 65-1683 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-1683. (a) The board shall establish and maintain a prescription monitoring program for the monitoring of scheduled substances and drugs of concern dispensed in this state or dispensed to an address in this state.

(b) Each dispenser shall submit to the board by electronic means information required by the board regarding each prescription dispensed for a substance included under subsection (a). The board shall promulgate rules and regulations specifying the nationally recognized telecommunications format to be used for submission of information that each dispenser shall submit to the board. Such information may include, but not be limited to:

(1) The dispenser identification number;

(2) the date the prescription is filled;

(3) the prescription number;

(4) whether the prescription is new or is a refill;

(5) the national drug code for the drug dispensed;

(6) the quantity dispensed;

(7) the number of days' supply of the drug;

(8) the patient identification number;
(9) the patient's name;
(10) the patient's address;
(11) the patient's date of birth;
(12) the prescriber identification number;
(13) the date the prescription was issued by the prescriber; ~~and~~
(14) the source of payment for the prescription*; and*
(15) the diagnosis code.

(c) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations specifying the transmission methods and frequency of the dispenser submissions required under subsection (b).

(d) ~~The board may issue a waiver to a dispenser that is unable to submit prescription information by electronic means. Such waiver may permit the dispenser to submit prescription information by paper form or other means, provided that all information required by rules and regulations is submitted in this alternative format.~~ *The board may, in consultation with the advisory committee, enable features and include additional information to enhance the program database. Such information may include, but not be limited to:*

(1) The date or fact of death;

(2) the dispensation or administration of emergency opioid antagonists, as defined by K.S.A. 65-16,127, and amendments thereto; and

(3) the data related to an overdose event.

(e) The board is hereby authorized to apply for and to accept grants and may accept any donation, gift or bequest made to the board for furthering any phase of the prescription monitoring program.

(f) The board shall remit all moneys received by it under subsection (e) to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the non-federal gifts and grants fund. All expenditures from such fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the president of the board or a person designated by the president.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 65-1685 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-1685. (a) The ~~prescription monitoring~~ program database, all information contained therein and any records maintained by the board, or by any entity contracting with the board, submitted to, maintained or stored as a part of the database, *including audit trail information,* shall be privileged and confidential, shall not be subject to subpoena or discovery in civil proceedings and may only be used for investigatory or evidentiary purposes related to violations of state or federal law and regulatory activities of entities charged with administrative oversight of those persons

engaged in the prescribing or dispensing of scheduled substances and drugs of concern, shall not be a public record and shall not be subject to the Kansas open records act, K.S.A. 45-215 et seq., and amendments thereto, except as provided in subsections (c) and (d).

(b) The board shall maintain procedures to ensure that the privacy and confidentiality of patients and patient information collected, recorded, transmitted and maintained is not disclosed to persons except as provided in subsections (c) and (d).

(c) The board is hereby authorized to provide data in the ~~prescription monitoring~~ program to the following persons:

(1) Persons authorized to prescribe or dispense scheduled substances and drugs of concern, for the purpose of providing medical or pharmaceutical care for their patients;

(2) an individual who requests the individual's own prescription monitoring information in accordance with procedures established by the board;

(3) designated representatives from the professional licensing, certification or regulatory agencies charged with administrative oversight of those persons engaged in the prescribing or dispensing of scheduled substances and drugs of concern;

(4) local, state and federal law enforcement or prosecutorial officials engaged in the administration, investigation or enforcement of the laws governing scheduled substances and drugs of concern subject to the requirements in K.S.A. 22-2502, and amendments thereto;

(5) designated representatives from the department of health and environment regarding authorized medicaid program recipients;

(6) persons authorized by a grand jury subpoena, inquisition subpoena or court order in a criminal action;

(7) personnel of the prescription monitoring program advisory committee for the purpose of operation of the program;

(8) personnel of the board for purposes of *operation of the program and* administration and enforcement of this act or the uniform controlled substances act, K.S.A. 65-4101 et seq., and amendments thereto;

(9) persons authorized to prescribe or dispense scheduled substances and drugs of concern, when an individual is obtaining prescriptions in a manner that appears to be misuse, abuse or diversion of scheduled substances or drugs of concern; ~~and~~

(10) medical examiners, coroners or other persons authorized under law to investigate or determine causes of death~~.~~*;*

(11) persons operating a practitioner or pharmacist impaired provider program in accordance with K.S.A. 65-4924, and amendments thereto, for the purpose of reviewing drugs dispensed to a practitioner or pharmacist enrolled in the program;

(12) delegates of persons authorized by paragraphs (1), (9) and (10);

(13) persons or organizations notified by the advisory committee as provided in section (g);

(14) practitioners or pharmacists conducting research approved by an institutional review board who have obtained patient consent for the release of program data; and

(15) an overdose fatality review board established by the state of Kansas.

(d) An individual registered for access to the program database shall notify the board in writing within 30 calendar days of any action that would disqualify the individual from being authorized to receive program data as provided in subsection (c).

(e) The state board of healing arts, board of nursing, Kansas dental board and board of examiners in optometry shall notify the board in writing within 30 days of any denial, suspension, revocation or other administrative limitation of a practitioner's license or registration that would disqualify the practitioner from being authorized to receive program data as provided in subsection (c).

(f) A practitioner or pharmacist shall notify the board in writing within 30 calendar days of any action that would disqualify a delegate from being authorized to receive program data on behalf of the practitioner or pharmacist.

~~(d)~~*(g)* The prescription monitoring program advisory committee established pursuant to K.S.A. 65-1689, and amendments thereto, is authorized to review and analyze ~~the~~ *program* data for purposes of identifying patterns and activity of concern.

(1) If a review of information appears to indicate a person may be obtaining prescriptions in a manner that may represent misuse or abuse of ~~controlled~~ *scheduled* substances and drugs of concern, the advisory committee is authorized to notify the prescribers and dispensers who prescribed or dispensed the prescriptions. *If the review does not identify a recent prescriber as a point of contact for potential clinical intervention, the advisory committee is authorized to notify the disability and behavioral health services section of the Kansas department for aging and disability services for the purpose of offering confidential treatment services and prohibiting further disclosure of information.* If the review identifies patterns or other evidence sufficient to create a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, the advisory committee is authorized to notify the appropriate law enforcement agency.

(2) If a review of information appears to indicate that a violation of state or federal law relating to prescribing ~~controlled~~ *scheduled* substances and drugs of concern may have occurred, or that a prescriber or dispenser has knowingly prescribed, dispensed or obtained ~~controlled~~ *scheduled*

substances and drugs of concern in a manner that is inconsistent with recognized standards of care for the profession, the advisory committee shall determine whether a report to the professional licensing, certification or regulatory agencies charged with administrative oversight of those persons engaged in prescribing or dispensing of ~~controlled~~ *scheduled* substances and drugs of concern or to the appropriate law enforcement agency is warranted.

(A) For purposes of such determination the advisory committee may, in consultation with the appropriate regulatory agencies and professional organizations, establish criteria regarding appropriate standards and utilize volunteer peer review committees of professionals with expertise in the particular practice to create such standards and review individual cases.

(B) The peer review committee or committees appointed herein shall have authority to request and receive information in the ~~prescription monitoring~~ program database from the director of the ~~prescription monitoring~~ program.

(C) If the determination is made that a referral to a regulatory or law enforcement agency is not warranted but educational or professional advising might be appropriate, the advisory committee may refer the prescribers or dispensers to other such resources.

(3) If a review of information appears to indicate that program data has been accessed or used in violation of state or federal law, the advisory committee shall determine whether a report to the professional licensing, certification or regulatory agencies charged with administrative oversight of those persons engaged in prescribing or dispensing of scheduled substances and drugs of concern is warranted.

(e) The board is hereby authorized to provide ~~data in the prescription monitoring~~ program *data* to public or private entities for statistical, research or educational purposes after removing information that could be used to identify individual practitioners, dispensers, patients or persons who received prescriptions from dispensers.

(f) The board may, in its discretion, block any user's access to the program database if the board has reason to believe that access to the data is or may be used by such user in violation of state or federal law.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 65-1687 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-1687. *(a)* All information collected for the prescription monitoring program database and any records maintained by the board, or by any entity contracting with the board, submitted to, maintained or stored as a part of the database, shall be retained for five years. ~~Such information and records shall then be destroyed unless a law enforcement entity or an entity charged with administrative oversight of those persons engaged in the prescribing or dispensing of scheduled substances and drugs of concern has submitted a written request to the board for retention of~~

~~specific information or records in accordance with procedures adopted by the board~~

(b) Program data shall not be stored outside of the program database, with the following exceptions:

(1) Temporary storage necessary to deliver program data to electronic health records or pharmacy management systems approved by the board;

(2) retention of specific information or records related to an investigation or proceeding under administrative or criminal law;

(3) program data provided under K.S.A. 65-1685(e), and amendments thereto; or

(4) board retention of information for purposes of operation of the program and administration and enforcement of this act or the uniform controlled substances act, K.S.A. 65-4101 et seq., and amendments thereto.

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 65-1689 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-1689. (a) There is hereby created the ~~prescription monitoring~~ program advisory committee which, subject to the oversight of the board, shall be responsible for the operation of ~~the prescription monitoring~~ program. The advisory committee shall consist of at least ~~nine~~ *13* members appointed by the board as follows:

(1) Two licensed physicians, one nominated by the Kansas medical society and one nominated by the Kansas association of osteopathic medicine;

(2) two licensed pharmacists nominated by the Kansas pharmacists association;

(3) one person representing the Kansas bureau of investigation nominated by the attorney general;

(4) one person representing the university of Kansas school of medicine nominated by the dean of such school;

(5) one person representing the university of Kansas school of pharmacy nominated by the dean of such school;

(6) one licensed dentist nominated by the Kansas dental association; ~~and~~

(7) one person representing the Kansas hospital association nominated by such association.*;*

(8) one licensed advanced practice registered nurse nominated by the board of nursing;

(9) one licensed physician assistant nominated by the state board of healing arts;

(10) two licensed physicians nominated by the state board of healing arts; and

(11) the board may also appoint ~~other~~ *additional* persons authorized to prescribe or dispense scheduled substances and drugs of concern,

recognized experts and representatives from law enforcement.

(b) The appointments to the advisory committee shall be for terms of three years.

(c) The advisory committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members who shall serve a one-year term. The chairperson may serve consecutive terms.

(d) The advisory committee, in accordance with K.S.A. 75-4319, and amendments thereto, may recess for a closed or executive meeting when it is considering matters relating to identifiable patients or providers.

(e) Upon the expiration of the term of office of any member of the advisory committee on or after the effective date of this act, and in any case of a vacancy existing on or after the effective date of this act, a successor shall be appointed by the board pursuant to this section.

(f) All members of the advisory committee shall serve without compensation.

Sec. 6. K.S.A. 65-1682, 65-1683, 65-1685, 65-1687 and 65-1689 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.