

S.F. No. 3940 – Modifying the scope of practice for pharmacists (DE amendment)

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S.F. 3940 makes modifications to the scope of practice for pharmacists with respect to monitoring certain drug therapies, including ordering and performing certain lab tests, and with respect to administering vaccines. S.F. 3940 also authorizes pharmacy technicians and pharmacist interns to perform lab tests and administer vaccines if certain requirements are met and the technician or intern is directly supervised by a pharmacist. S.F. 3940 also requires medical assistance to reimburse vaccines that are administered by a pharmacist and lab tests that are ordered and performed by a pharmacist to be reimbursed at the same rate as any other practitioner performing these services.

Section 1 (151.01, subdivision 27), in clause (3), authorizes a pharmacist to order certain laboratory tests as part of monitoring drug therapies. It also authorizes a pharmacist to collect specimens, interpret results, notify the patient of results, and refer patients to other health care providers for follow up care and to initiate, modify, or discontinue drug therapy pursuant to a protocol or collaborative practice agreement. Authorizes a pharmacy technician or pharmacist intern to perform these tests if the technician or intern is working under the direct supervision of a pharmacist.

In clause (6), modifies the authorization of pharmacists to participate in the administration of vaccines by modifying the protocol requirements and requiring the pharmacist to inform the patient or an adult care giver, if the patient is under the age of 18, of the importance of a well child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary care provider when administering the vaccine.

Section 2 (151.103), paragraph (a) authorizes a pharmacy technician or a pharmacist intern to administer vaccines if the technician or intern (1) is under the direct supervision of a pharmacist while administering the vaccine; (2) has successfully completed a training program; (3) has a current certificate in basic CPR; and (4) if a pharmacy technician is administering the vaccine, the technician has completed (i) one of the training programs listed in Minnesota Rules; and (ii) a minimum of two hours of APCE-approved, immunization-related continuing pharmacy education as part of the technician's continuing education schedule.

Paragraph (b) specifies that direct supervision must be in-person and not through telehealth.

Section 3 (256B.0625, subd. 13k), paragraph (a) requires medical assistance to cover vaccines that are initiated, ordered, or administered by a licensed pharmacist and reimburse the pharmacist at no less than the rate for which the same services are covered when provided by any other practitioner.

Paragraph (b) requires medical assistance to cover laboratory tests when ordered and performed by a licensed pharmacist and reimburse the pharmacist at no less than the rate for which the same services are reimbursed when provided by any other practitioner.