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HOUSE BILL 1545

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Robinson, Johnson, and Cody

Read first time 01/22/15. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to the safe practice of public health nurses  
2 dispensing certain medications; and adding a new section to chapter  
3 70.05 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.05  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) A registered nurse who is licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW,  
8 and who is an employee of a local health department or district or a  
9 clinic or facility under contract with a local health department or  
10 district, may dispense a drug or device for purposes of prevention or  
11 treatment of a communicable disease or family planning.

12 (2) Such dispensing must be pursuant to the order of a person  
13 authorized to prescribe a drug or device in the state of Washington.

14 (3) The local health officer must establish policies and  
15 procedures that include the following:

16 (a) Procedures for drug dispensing, documentation storage,  
17 security, and accountability;

18 (b) Maintenance of all drug records required by federal and state  
19 law.

20 (4) A drug may only be dispensed by a practitioner authorized by  
21 law to prescribe the drug or by a registered nurse licensed under

1 chapter 18.79 RCW, and must be dispensed in a container complying  
2 with the federal poison prevention packaging act unless the patient  
3 requests a noncomplying container. A registered nurse may only  
4 dispense a drug or device for purposes of prevention or treatment of  
5 a communicable disease or family planning. Each drug that is  
6 dispensed must be labeled with the following:

7 (a) Name of patient;

8 (b) Name of prescriber;

9 (c) Name, address, and phone number of the clinic;

10 (d) Date of dispensing;

11 (e) Name and strength of the drug. If the drug does not have a  
12 brand name, then the generic name of the drug and the drug  
13 manufacturer must be stated;

14 (f) Directions for use;

15 (g) Initials of the person dispensing;

16 (h) Cautionary statements, if any, as required by law;

17 (i) Manufacturer's expiration date, or an earlier date if  
18 preferable, after which the patient should not use the drug.

19 A drug information fact sheet must accompany each drug dispensed from  
20 a local health department or district or clinic or facility under  
21 contract with a local health department or district.

22 (5) A drug repackaged for dispensing must be in a container  
23 meeting United States pharmacopeia standards and labeled to identify  
24 at a minimum:

25 (a) Brand name, or generic name and manufacturer;

26 (b) Strength;

27 (c) Lot number;

28 (d) Manufacturer's expiration date or an earlier date if  
29 preferable. An internal control number that references manufacturer  
30 and lot number may be used.

31 (6) In the absence of a dispensing practitioner or a registered  
32 nurse, drugs must be kept in a locked drug cabinet or drug room which  
33 is sufficiently secure to deny access to unauthorized persons. Only  
34 dispensing practitioners and registered nurses may have access to the  
35 drug cabinet or drug room. In their absence, the drug cabinet or drug  
36 room must remain locked. All drugs must be stored in areas that will  
37 assure proper sanitation, temperature, light, ventilation and  
38 moisture control as recommended by the manufacturer. Drugs that are  
39 outdated, damaged, deteriorated, misbranded, or adulterated must be

1 quarantined and physically separated from other drugs until they are  
2 destroyed or returned to their supplier.

3 (7) A dispensing record must be maintained separately from the  
4 patient chart and kept for a minimum of three years. The record must  
5 show, at a minimum, the following:

6 (a) Name of patient;

7 (b) Brand name of drug, or generic name and name of manufacturer  
8 or distributor;

9 (c) Amount dispensed;

10 (d) Date;

11 (e) Initials of person dispensing the prescription.

12 All records of receipt and disposal of drugs must be kept for a  
13 minimum of three years. All records required by these rules or by  
14 federal and state law must be readily retrievable for inspection by  
15 the board of pharmacy.

16 (8) Notwithstanding any other requirements in this section, when  
17 a drug is dispensed in the practice of the expedited partner therapy  
18 treatment protocol, the name of the patient may be omitted from the  
19 label, the patient's name may be omitted from the records and a drug  
20 may be dispensed to the patient to be given to the patient's partner  
21 even if the partner has not been examined by a licensed health care  
22 provider acting within his or her scope of practice.

23 (9) The pharmacy quality assurance commission may adopt rules  
24 necessary to implement this section.

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