

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: S3/9/21  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 387

By: Senators K. Hammer, Irvin  
By: Representatives Warren, Cloud

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE OFF-LABEL USE OF DRUG TREATMENTS TO TREAT MEDICAID BENEFICIARIES DIAGNOSED WITH PEDIATRIC ACUTE-ONSET NEUROPSYCHIATRIC SYNDROME AND PEDIATRIC AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS ASSOCIATED WITH STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AUTHORIZE OFF-LABEL USE OF DRUG TREATMENTS TO TREAT MEDICAID BENEFICIARIES WITH PEDIATRIC ACUTE-ONSET NEUROPSYCHIATRIC SYNDROME AND PEDIATRIC AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS ASSOCIATED WITH STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-77-140. Off-label use of drug treatment to treat pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome and pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infection.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome, also known as "PANS", is a clinically defined disorder characterized by the sudden onset of obsessive-compulsive symptoms or eating restrictions, accompanied by two



(2) or more symptoms of acute behavioral deterioration or motor and sensory changes, or both;

(2) Pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections, also known as "PANDAS", is a term used to describe a subset of symptoms affecting children and adolescents within the broader PANS classification;

(3) Other state Medicaid programs provide coverage for off-label use of drug treatments to treat pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome and pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections; and

(4) However, the Arkansas Medicaid Program does not provide coverage for off-label use of drug treatments, to treat Medicaid beneficiaries who are diagnosed with pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome and pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections.

(b) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall provide coverage for off-label use of drug treatments, including without limitation intravenous immunoglobulin, also known as "IVIG", to treat Medicaid beneficiaries who are diagnosed with pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome or pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections, or both, under a treatment plan established by the Postinfectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy Center of Excellence clinic in Arkansas.

(c) The Department of Human Services shall apply for any federal waiver, state plan amendment, or other authorization necessary to implement this section.

*/s/K. Hammer*

**APPROVED: 4/12/21**