

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: S3/16/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1177

By: Representative L. Johnson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS TO A PATIENT WHO HAS A SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION; TO ALLOW PARTICIPATION IN CARE COORDINATION BY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES; TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE TRANSPORT OF A PATIENT WHO HAS A SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS TO A PATIENT WHO HAS A SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-13-202, concerning the definitions under the Emergency Medical Services Act, is amended to add additional subdivisions to read as follows:

(11)(A) "Care coordination" means the coordination of healthcare services in nonemergency situations or in situations that do not require immediate action by healthcare professional teams to assist a patient in the management of his or her health care and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the healthcare sector.

(B) "Care coordination" includes without limitation:

(i) Developing potential treatment plans;

(ii) Determining the optimal treatment for a patient



before considering hospitalization; and

(iii) Establishing alternative approaches and treatment for a patient; and

(12)(A) "Specific health condition" means a health condition that requires specialized healthcare treatment.

(B) "Specific health condition" includes without limitation:

(i) A health condition that is listed as rare by the National Institutes of Health; and

(ii) A health condition that could be fatal for which a patient seeks specialized health care.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 13, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-13-216. Specific health condition.

(a) Emergency medical services personnel may administer prescription medications that are:

(1) Carried by a patient;

(2) Administered via routes of delivery that are within the scope of training for emergency medical services personnel;

(3) Intended to treat a specific health condition; and

(4) Not listed on the drug formulary set out by the Department of Health.

(b) A patient who is diagnosed with a specific health condition may request to be transported to an alternative destination facility that is farther away than the nearest facility if:

(1) The alternative destination facility better meets the needs of the patient because:

(A) The patient's physician and medical records are at the alternative destination facility;

(B) The patient has recently been discharged from the alternative destination facility;

(C) The patient has had previous hospitalizations at the alternative destination facility; and

(D) The patient's complex medical history is followed at the alternative destination facility; and

(2) The request is approved by the local emergency medical services entity, which may include or be an emergency medical services board established under § 14-266-105(a)(3).

(c) The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council shall establish standards for:

(1) Emergency medical services personnel to communicate with patients and caregivers of patients who are diagnosed with a specific health condition about:

(A) The patient's specific health condition;

(B) The likelihood that the patient will need emergency medical services; and

(C) The collaborative development of emergency medical service care plans to meet the patient's needs; and

(2) Local emergency medical services entities, which may include or be emergency medical services boards established under § 14-266-105(a)(3), to participate in care coordination for patients who are diagnosed with a specific health condition.

/s/L. Johnson

APPROVED: 4/21/21