

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.  
Act 637 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

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

SENATE BILL 387

5 By: Senators K. Hammer, Irvin  
6 By: Representatives Warren, Cloud  
7

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

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

**Subtitle**

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18 TO AUTHORIZE OFF-LABEL USE OF DRUG  
19 TREATMENTS TO TREAT MEDICAID  
20 BENEFICIARIES WITH PEDIATRIC ACUTE-ONSET  
21 NEUROPSYCHIATRIC SYNDROME AND PEDIATRIC  
22 AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS  
23 ASSOCIATED WITH STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTION.  
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is  
29 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 20-77-140. Off-label use of drug treatment to treat pediatric acute-  
31 onset neuropsychiatric syndrome and pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric  
32 disorders associated with streptococcal infection.

33 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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27 */s/K. Hammer*

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30 **APPROVED: 4/12/21**