

Subject Pharmacist practice expanded; vaccines and laboratory tests

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Overview

This bill expands the authority of licensed pharmacists related to certain laboratory tests and initiating, ordering, and administering vaccines. The bill also requires such services to be covered under medical assistance.

Summary

Section **Description**

1 Practice of pharmacy.

Amends § 151.01, subd. 27. Modifies the practice of pharmacy to allow a pharmacist to order laboratory tests as part of monitoring drug therapies and participating in clinical interpretations. Also authorizes a pharmacist to collect specimens, interpret results, notify patients 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. Allows a pharmacy technician or intern to perform these tests if working under the direct supervision of a pharmacist.

Also expands pharmacists' authority to administer, initiate, and order vaccines authorized or approved by the FDA to all individuals ages three and older, according to the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices schedules. Allows a pharmacist to delegate vaccine administration authority to a pharmacy technician or intern if the pharmacy technician or intern meets listed requirements for training, assessment of immunization status, reporting, and supervision.

If a patient is under 18 years old, requires the pharmacist, pharmacy technician, or intern to inform the patient and any accompanying adult caregiver of the importance of a well-child visit with a primary care provider or pediatrician.

2 Vaccines and laboratory tests provided by pharmacists.

Amends § 256B.0625 by adding subd. 13k. Requires medical assistance to cover vaccines initiated, ordered, or administered by a licensed pharmacist, and laboratory tests ordered and performed by a licensed pharmacist, at no less than the rate for

Section	Description
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	which the same services are covered when provided by any other licensed practitioner.
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	Makes this section effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.
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