A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 1570

Ordered by the Senate February 15
Including Senate Amendments dated February 15

Sponsored by Senator WINTERS; Senators ATKINSON, FERRIOLI, GEORGE, KRUSE, MORSE, OLSEN, STARR, TELFER, VERGER, WHITSETT, Representative HICKS (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires**, until June 30, 2016,** medical assistance coverage of prescription drugs that are immunosuppressant drugs or drugs for treatment of seizures, cancer, HIV or AIDS.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to payments for prescription drugs; creating new provisions; amending ORS 414.325; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 414.325 is amended to read:

414.325. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Legend drug" means any drug requiring a prescription by a practitioner, as defined in ORS 689.005.

(b) "Mental health drug" means a type of legend drug defined by the Oregon Health Authority by rule that includes, but is not limited to:

(A) Therapeutic class 7 ataractics-tranquilizers; and

(B) Therapeutic class 11 psychostimulants-antidepressants.

(c) "Urgent medical condition" means a medical condition that arises suddenly, is not life-threatening and requires prompt treatment to avoid the development of more serious medical problems.

(2) The authority shall reimburse the cost of a legend drug prescribed for a recipient of medical assistance only if the legend drug:

(a) Is on the drug list of the Practitioner-Managed Prescription Drug Plan adopted under ORS 414.334;

(b) Is in a therapeutic class of nonsedating antihistamines and nasal inhalers, as defined by the authority by rule, and is prescribed by an allergist for the treatment of:

(A) Asthma;

(B) Sinusitis;

(C) Rhinitis; or

(D) Allergies; [*or*]

(c) Is prescribed and dispensed under this chapter by a licensed practitioner at a rural health clinic for an urgent medical condition and:

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

(A) There is no pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic;

(B) The prescription is dispensed for a patient outside of the normal business hours of any pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic; or

(C) No pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic dispenses legend drugs under this chapter[.]**;**

(d) Is a mental health drug;

(e) Is a drug indicated for the treatment of seizures, cancer, HIV or AIDS; or

(f) Is an immunosuppressant drug.

(3) The authority shall pay only for drugs in the generic form unless an exception has been granted by the authority through the prior authorization process adopted by the authority under subsection (4) of this section.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, the authority shall provide reimbursement for a legend drug that does not meet the criteria in subsection (2) of this section if:

[*(a) It is a mental health drug.*]

[*(b)*] **(a)** The authority grants approval through a prior authorization process adopted by the authority by rule.

[*(c)*] **(b)** The prescriber contacts the authority requesting prior authorization and the authority or its agent fails to respond to the telephone call or to a prescriber's request made by electronic mail within 24 hours.

[*(d)*] **(c)** After consultation with the authority or its agent, the prescriber, in the prescriber's professional judgment, determines that the drug is medically appropriate.

[*(e) The original prescription was written prior to July 28, 2009, or the request is for a refill of a prescription for:*]

[*(A) The treatment of seizures, cancer, HIV or AIDS; or*]

[*(B) An immunosuppressant.*]

[*(f)*] **(d)** It is a drug in a class not evaluated for the Practitioner-Managed Prescription Drug Plan adopted under ORS 414.334.

(5) Notwithstanding subsections (1) to (4) of this section, the authority is authorized to:

(a) Withhold payment for a legend drug when federal financial participation is not available;

(b) Require prior authorization of payment for drugs that the authority has determined should be limited to those conditions generally recognized as appropriate by the medical profession; and

(c) Withhold payment for a legend drug that is not a funded health service on the prioritized list of health services established by the Health Evidence Review Commission under ORS 414.720.

(6) Notwithstanding ORS 414.334, the authority may conduct prospective drug utilization review prior to payment for drugs for a patient whose prescription drug use exceeded 15 drugs in the preceding six-month period.

(7) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, the authority may pay a pharmacy for a particular brand name drug rather than the generic version of the drug after notifying the pharmacy that the cost of the particular brand name drug, after receiving discounted prices and rebates, is equal to or less than the cost of the generic version of the drug.

(8)(a) Within 180 days after the United States patent expires on an immunosuppressant drug used in connection with an organ transplant, the authority shall determine whether the drug is a narrow therapeutic index drug.

(b) As used in this subsection, "narrow therapeutic index drug" means a drug that has a narrow range in blood concentrations between efficacy and toxicity and requires therapeutic drug concentration or pharmacodynamic monitoring.

(9) The authority shall appoint an advisory committee in accordance with ORS 183.333 for any rulemaking conducted pursuant to this section.

SECTION 2. ORS 414.325, as amended by section 1 of this 2012 Act, is amended to read:

414.325. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Legend drug" means any drug requiring a prescription by a practitioner, as defined in ORS 689.005.

(b) "Mental health drug" means a type of legend drug defined by the Oregon Health Authority by rule that includes, but is not limited to:

(A) Therapeutic class 7 ataractics-tranquilizers; and

(B) Therapeutic class 11 psychostimulants-antidepressants.

(c) "Urgent medical condition" means a medical condition that arises suddenly, is not life-threatening and requires prompt treatment to avoid the development of more serious medical problems.

(2) The authority shall reimburse the cost of a legend drug prescribed for a recipient of medical assistance only if the legend drug:

(a) Is on the drug list of the Practitioner-Managed Prescription Drug Plan adopted under ORS 414.334;

(b) Is in a therapeutic class of nonsedating antihistamines and nasal inhalers, as defined by the authority by rule, and is prescribed by an allergist for the treatment of:

(A) Asthma;

(B) Sinusitis;

(C) Rhinitis; or

(D) Allergies;

(c) Is prescribed and dispensed under this chapter by a licensed practitioner at a rural health clinic for an urgent medical condition and:

(A) There is no pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic;

(B) The prescription is dispensed for a patient outside of the normal business hours of any pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic; or

(C) No pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic dispenses legend drugs under this chapter; **or**

(d) Is a mental health drug[*;*]**.**

[*(e) Is a drug indicated for the treatment of seizures, cancer, HIV or AIDS; or*]

[*(f) Is an immunosuppressant drug.*]

(3) The authority shall pay only for drugs in the generic form unless an exception has been granted by the authority through the prior authorization process adopted by the authority under subsection (4) of this section.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, the authority shall provide reimbursement for a legend drug that does not meet the criteria in subsection (2) of this section if:

(a) The authority grants approval through a prior authorization process adopted by the authority by rule.

(b) The prescriber contacts the authority requesting prior authorization and the authority or its agent fails to respond to the telephone call or to a prescriber's request made by electronic mail within 24 hours.

(c) After consultation with the authority or its agent, the prescriber, in the prescriber's professional judgment, determines that the drug is medically appropriate.

(d) It is a drug in a class not evaluated for the Practitioner-Managed Prescription Drug Plan

adopted under ORS 414.334.

(e) The original prescription was written prior to July 28, 2009, or the request is for a refill of a prescription for:

(A) The treatment of seizures, cancer, HIV or AIDS; or

(B) An immunosuppressant.

(5) Notwithstanding subsections (1) to (4) of this section, the authority is authorized to:

(a) Withhold payment for a legend drug when federal financial participation is not available;

(b) Require prior authorization of payment for drugs that the authority has determined should be limited to those conditions generally recognized as appropriate by the medical profession; and

(c) Withhold payment for a legend drug that is not a funded health service on the prioritized list of health services established by the Health Evidence Review Commission under ORS 414.720.

(6) Notwithstanding ORS 414.334, the authority may conduct prospective drug utilization review prior to payment for drugs for a patient whose prescription drug use exceeded 15 drugs in the preceding six-month period.

(7) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, the authority may pay a pharmacy for a particular brand name drug rather than the generic version of the drug after notifying the pharmacy that the cost of the particular brand name drug, after receiving discounted prices and rebates, is equal to or less than the cost of the generic version of the drug.

(8)(a) Within 180 days after the United States patent expires on an immunosuppressant drug used in connection with an organ transplant, the authority shall determine whether the drug is a narrow therapeutic index drug.

(b) As used in this subsection, "narrow therapeutic index drug" means a drug that has a narrow range in blood concentrations between efficacy and toxicity and requires therapeutic drug concentration or pharmacodynamic monitoring.

(9) The authority shall appoint an advisory committee in accordance with ORS 183.333 for any rulemaking conducted pursuant to this section.

SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 414.325 by section 2 of this 2012 Act become operative June 30, 2016.

SECTION 4. This 2012 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2012 Act takes effect on its passage.
