



Feb 28, 2013

Mister Chairman and members of the Health Committee,

Good Morning, My name is Susan Stein and I am representing the Oregon Society of Healthsystem Pharmacists. I am here today to express our support for Senate Bill 470 and several of the amendments offered today.

One aspect of the problem of prescription drug abuse is the treatment of patients that present at the Healthsystem's Emergency Department or Urgent care clinics. The availability of a comprehensive list of controlled medications dispensed to the patient helps care practitioners to provide good quality care to Oregon patients, which can take into account previous prescription drug dispensing. Oregon pharmacists practicing in Emergency Departments and primary care offices have been using the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program reports to assist in the treatment of patients through the use of Collaborative Drug Therapy Management Protocols and their medication use expertise.

The revisions and amendments contained in SB 470 will improve the functionality and information available to pharmacists in several ways.

1. The ability to increase the number of drugs in the program will allow high risk patients with multiple drug classes to be identified more easily and treated appropriately.
  - a. The Healthsystem pharmacists have responsibility to reconcile the outpatient medication regimens with therapy provided in the hospital. The more drugs available in the PDMP, the easier this task becomes. This reconciliation has been shown to be a significant improvement in safety both in the hospital and upon discharge. **OSHP would like to see all prescription drugs included in the PDMP.**
2. The ability to have authorized staff assist in the PDMP data collection will allow the more frequent use of the data in routine care and facilitate more physician and pharmacist use of the medication profile.
3. The addition of a few data elements such as prescription number and days supply will be very helpful when evaluating an individual patients drug therapy.
4. The amendment to allow practitioners from adjacent states to sign up for access will be very helpful in the Portland Metro and Colombia Gorge areas where patients live and work across the state borders.
5. The inclusion of a link to the PDMP from the Electronic Health Record used by the Healthsystems to provide care will be helpful and increase the use of the PDMP in health systems.

The members of the Oregon Society of Healthsystem Pharmacists have found the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to be a helpful and useful tool in the safe and effective use of controlled substances. The proposed bill with its amendments will improve the Program and assist in the prevention of inadvertent deaths caused by prescription drugs. We urge the committee to pass the bill to the legislature for passage.

Are there any questions I can answer for the committee at this time?

Sue Stein