



SB 1579-A Enables Synchronized Prescriptions

The Oregon State Pharmacy Association and the Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists urge your support of SB 1579-A. This measure will enhance the utilization of a synchronized prescription refill program designed to improve health outcomes by improving medication adherence and decreasing gaps in therapy.

Medication synchronization allows a patient to have all of their prescriptions refilled each month on the same day based on what is convenient for the patient or using an anchor medication. The anchor medication is usually the one that is the most expensive and all the other medications are adjusted to align with that medication's schedule.

Prior to the appointment, the patient is contacted by the pharmacy to determine if any changes have been made to the medication regimen and to confirm. Most importantly, the interaction between the pharmacist and the patient at the time of the appointment can be used for counseling, completion of a comprehensive medication review or health screening. The result is a more engaged, healthier patient. In a study by the Virginia Commonwealth University, patients using synchronized prescriptions were 3 to 6 times more likely than those not using the model to be adherent to their medications.

SB 1579-A requires insurance plans to cover the process of synchronizing refills for all of a patient's chronic medications which require a one-time adjustment of the refill quantities for some of the medications.

Please support this legislation to help enable pharmacists to provide their patients with individualized convenient care.