



Help Improve Women’s Choice of Contraceptive Options – Support HB 2527-A

May 18, 2017

Senate Health Care Committee

Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee

The Oregon State Pharmacy Association and the Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists support the adoption of HB 2527-A which improves women’s choice of contraceptive options at pharmacies. We believe that this measure is a natural extension of HB 2879 which authorized pharmacists to provide self-administered hormonal contraceptives in addition to emergency contraceptives.

Approved in 2015, HB 2879 directed the Board of Pharmacy (BOP) to adopt rules allowing licensed pharmacists to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives to a person who is at least 18 years of age. Those rules include:

- a BOP-approved pharmacist training program;
- a requirement that patients use a self-screening risk assessment tool prior to a pharmacist prescribing the contraceptive;
- that the pharmacist advise and refer the patient to patient’s primary care practitioner upon prescribing and dispensing contraceptive; and,
- that the pharmacist provide patients with written record of contraceptive prescribed and dispensed.

The rules require pharmacists to ensure that the patient has seen a provider once every three years after initial prescription and prohibit a pharmacist from requiring the patient to schedule an appointment prior to prescribing and dispensing the contraceptive.

By revising the definition of “self-administered hormonal contraceptive,” HB 2527-A expands the choices of contraceptive options at pharmacies to also include vaginal rings and injectable contraceptives like Depo-Provera. Pharmacists are already very familiar with these products and pharmacists are already able to administer injectable drugs. The online certification module includes training for the ring and is already available to pharmacists through the certification course. An additional module on the injectables will be forwarded to those pharmacists already certified immediately upon passage of this legislation.

Please support the passage of HB 2527-A to improve women's choice of and access to contraceptive options.

Prepared by Bill Cross & Niki Terzieff, OSPA & OSHP Government Affairs

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