

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 450

Short Title: Pharmacist Provided Health Care Services. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Sasser, Ross, Howard, and Blackwell (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 23, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR FAIR AND EQUITABLE REIMBURSEMENT OF HEALTH  
3 CARE SERVICES OR PROCEDURES THAT ARE PERFORMED BY A PHARMACIST  
4 WITHIN THAT PHARMACIST'S SCOPE OF PRACTICE AND THAT ARE  
5 EQUIVALENT TO SERVICES PERFORMED BY OTHER HEALTH CARE  
6 PROFESSIONALS.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** Part 7 of Article 50 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended  
9 by adding a new section to read:

10 **"§ 58-50-296. Reimbursement and coverage of services provided by pharmacists.**

11 (a) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

12 (1) Health care services. – Any of the following health or medical procedures or  
13 services rendered by a health care provider:

14 a. Testing, diagnosis, or treatment of a health condition, illness, injury,  
15 or disease. This includes testing, diagnosis, or treatment rendered by a  
16 pharmacist acting within the pharmacist's scope of practice.

17 b. Dispensing of drugs, medical devices, medical appliances, or medical  
18 goods for the treatment of a health condition, illness, injury, or disease.

19 c. Administration of a vaccine or medication.

20 (2) Pharmacist. – An individual licensed to practice pharmacy under Article 4A  
21 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes.

22 (b) Health benefit plans offered by insurers in this State shall reimburse a pharmacist at  
23 the same rate that other advanced practice or mid-level health care providers, such as nurse  
24 practitioners or physician assistants, are reimbursed when providing the same or equivalent  
25 health care services or procedures if all of the following are met:

26 (1) The service or procedure was performed within the pharmacist's licensed  
27 lawful scope of practice.

28 (2) The health benefit plan would have provided reimbursement if the service or  
29 procedure had been performed by another health care provider.

30 (3) The pharmacist provided the service or procedure in compliance with any  
31 requirements of the insurer related to the service or procedure.

32 (c) Insurers offering a health benefit plan in this State that delegate credentialing  
33 agreements to contracted health care facilities shall accept credentialing for pharmacists  
34 employed or contracted with those facilities.



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1       (d)   Insurers offering a health benefit plan in this State shall reimburse a contracted health  
2 care facility or a contracted pharmacist directly for covered services performed by a pharmacist  
3 within that pharmacist's lawful scope of practice whether or not the pharmacist is a participating  
4 provider in the insurer's provider network.

5       (e)   The participation of a pharmacy in a drug benefit provider network of an insurer  
6 offering a health benefit plan in this State shall not satisfy any requirement that insurers offering  
7 health benefit plans include pharmacists in medical benefit provider networks.

8       (f)   This section shall also apply to the following:

9           (1)   Agents of an insurer offering a health benefit plan in this State.

10          (2)   Third-party administrators, as defined under G.S. 58-56-2."

11       **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2023, and applies to contracts  
12 entered into, renewed, or amended on or after that date.