

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

Introduced By: Senators Anderson, DiMario, Calkin, Bell, Quezada, and Mack

Date Introduced: March 04, 2021

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 5-19.1 of the General Laws entitled "Pharmacies" is hereby amended  
2 by adding thereto the following section:

3 **5-19.1-36. Pharmacists -- Contraceptives -- Prescribing.**

4 (a) In accordance with chapter 19.1 of title 5 and adopted by the state board of pharmacy,  
5 a pharmacist may prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered  
6 oral hormonal contraceptives to a person who is:

7 (1) At least eighteen (18) years of age, regardless of whether the person has evidence of a  
8 previous prescription from a primary care practitioner or women's health care practitioner for a  
9 hormonal contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal contraceptive; or

10 (2) Under eighteen (18) years of age, only if the person has evidence of a previous  
11 prescription from a primary care practitioner or women's health care practitioner for a hormonal  
12 contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal contraceptive.

13 (b) The state board of pharmacy shall adopt rules to establish, in consultation with the  
14 Rhode Island medical board, the Rhode Island state board of nursing and the Rhode Island  
15 department of health, and in consideration of guidelines established by the American Congress of  
16 Obstetricians and Gynecologists standard procedures for the prescribing of hormonal contraceptive  
17 patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives by pharmacists.

18 (c) A pharmacist shall be required to:

19 (1) Complete a training program approved by the state board of pharmacy that is related to

1 prescribing hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives;  
2 (2) Provide a self-screening risk assessment tool that the patient must use prior to the  
3 pharmacist's prescribing the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal  
4 contraceptive;  
5 (3) Refer the patient to the patient's primary care practitioner or women's health care  
6 practitioner upon prescribing and dispensing the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-administered  
7 oral hormonal contraceptive;  
8 (4) Provide the patient with a written record of the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-  
9 administered oral hormonal contraceptive prescribed and dispensed and advise the patient to  
10 consult with a primary care practitioner or women's health care practitioner; and  
11 (5) Dispense the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal  
12 contraceptive to the patient as soon as practicable after the pharmacist issues the prescription.  
13 (d) All state and federal laws governing insurance coverage of contraceptive drugs,  
14 devices, products and services shall apply to hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered  
15 oral hormonal contraceptives prescribed by a pharmacist under this section.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

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- 1           This act would authorize a pharmacist to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive
- 2 patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives, provided that the pharmacist has
- 3 completed a training program approved by the state board of pharmacy.
- 4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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