



*2020 Legislative Session*

## **What is House Bill 42?**

*Pharmaceutical Service Reimbursement Parity*

### **House Bill 42**

House Bill 42 allows certified pharmacist clinicians and pharmacists with prescriptive authority to receive reimbursement from NM Medicaid and commercial insurance plans for clinical services at the same rate as other health care providers.



# Pharmacist Prescriptive Authority in New Mexico

Pharmacists in New Mexico can exercise prescriptive authority by the two means described below. Prescriptive authority goes beyond the traditional medication dispensing and counseling roles of pharmacists. It involves more training, in-depth patient assessment, clinical decision-making, and the development of evidence-based, patient-centered treatment plans.

## Prescriptive Authority for Certain Classes of Medication

Pharmacists can become certified to prescribe and administer immunizations, perform tuberculin skin testing, prescribe hormonal contraception, emergency contraception, tobacco cessation medications, and naloxone. When providing these services to patients, the pharmacist must perform an appropriate patient assessment in a private area of the pharmacy. To become certified in these areas, pharmacists must undergo specific training, maintain continuing education, and follow written protocols. Pharmacists prescribing under these protocols often practice in community pharmacies. Since community pharmacists are one of the most accessible health professionals, these protocols were established to increase access to preventive care services.



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## Pharmacist Clinicians

The Pharmacist Prescriptive Authority Act (PPAA) was passed in 1993, creating the pharmacist clinician certification. Pharmacist clinicians collaborate with physicians and other health professionals to provide certain primary care and specialty services, including prescribing medications, performing physical exams, ordering labs and facilitating lifestyle changes. To become certified as a pharmacist clinician, pharmacists must undergo additional training that includes physical assessment coursework and a patient-contact preceptorship under the supervision of a licensed prescriber.

Pharmacist clinicians have individual scopes of practice that are approved by the NM Medical Board and Board of Pharmacy and tailored to the practice site and expertise of the supervising physician(s). Pharmacist clinicians are most commonly located in clinics and hospitals. They help manage the medication therapy for a variety of conditions and populations such as diabetes, hypertension, coronary artery disease, heart failure, anticoagulation, infectious diseases (including bacterial infections, HIV, hepatitis C), pain management, and geriatrics. Similar to other prescribers, the prescriptions written by pharmacist clinicians undergo the double check of another pharmacist.



## **Who are we?**

We are the next generation of pharmacy leaders and medication experts; we are student pharmacists from The University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy.

## **Why are we here?**

As UNM student pharmacists, we are committed to helping New Mexicans lead healthier lives through health services, medication management and education.



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