

SENATE FILE NO. SF0033

Physician assistants amendments.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Baldwin, Driskill, Nethercott and
Wasserburger and Representative(s) Barlow,
Harshman, Kinner, Salazar, Simpson and
Sweeney

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to physician assistants; amending and
2 repealing provisions governing physician assistants;
3 expanding the authorized scope of practice for physician
4 assistants; and providing for an effective date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 33-26-513 is created to read:

9

10 **33-26-513. Advertising and display of license**
11 **requirement.**

12

13 (a) Any advertisement for health care services that
14 names a person practicing medicine as a physician assistant

1 shall identify the license held under this article. The
2 advertisement shall be free from deceptive or misleading
3 information.

4

5 (b) A person practicing medicine as a physician
6 assistant shall conspicuously post and affirmatively
7 communicate to the patient the license held under this
8 article. Posting and communication shall include:

9

10 (i) Wearing a photo identification name tag
11 during all patient encounters. The name tag shall:

12

13 (A) Include a recent photograph of the
14 licensed physician assistant;

15

16 (B) Include the license holder's name;

17

18 (C) Include the license held under this
19 article;

20

21 (D) Be of a sufficient size for a patient
22 to read the contents of the name tag; and

23

1 (E) Be worn in a conspicuous manner so as
 2 to be visible and apparent to the patient.

3
 4 (ii) Displaying in a conspicuous place in the
 5 office wherein the practice of medicine is conducted a
 6 license certificate or other writing issued by the board
 7 that clearly identifies the license held under this
 8 article. The certificate or other writing shall be of
 9 sufficient size so as to be visible and apparent to all
 10 current and prospective patients;

11
 12 (iii) Compliance with these posting and
 13 communication requirements in each practice setting.

14
 15 (c) A person practicing medicine as a physician
 16 assistant and working in a setting that does not involve
 17 direct patient care interaction is not subject to the
 18 posting and communication requirements in subsection (b) of
 19 this section.

20
 21 **Section** 2. W.S. 33-26-102(a)(xi)(C),
 22 33-26-501(a)(ii), 33-26-502(a), (b) and (e),

1 33-26-503(b)(ii) and (v)(intro), 33-26-504(a), 33-26-508(a)
2 and 33-26-510(c) are amended to read:

3

4 **33-26-102. Definitions.**

5

6 (a) As used in this chapter:

7

8 (xi) "Practicing medicine" means any person who
9 in any manner:

10

11 (C) Attaches the title of M.D., D.O., P.A.,
12 physician, surgeon, osteopathic physician or osteopathic
13 surgeon, doctor, physician assistant or any other words,
14 letters or abbreviations or any combination thereof when
15 used in the conduct of any occupation or profession
16 pertaining to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of
17 human disease or condition unless the designation
18 additionally contains the description of another branch of
19 the healing arts for which one holds a valid license in
20 this state; or

21

22

ARTICLE 5

23

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

1

2 **33-26-501. Definitions.**

3

4 (a) As used in this article:

5

6 (ii) "License" means a license to practice
7 medicine as a physician assistant in this state;

8

9 **33-26-502. Scope of W.S. 33-26-501 through 33-26-511;**
10 **signature authority.**

11

12 (a) This article does not apply to persons enrolled
13 in a physician assistant education program. ~~approved by the~~
14 ~~board.~~

15

16 (b) A physician assistant ~~assists in the practice of~~
17 is an individual who practices medicine. ~~under the~~
18 ~~supervision of a licensed physician. Within the~~
19 ~~physician/physician assistant relationship, physician~~
20 ~~assistants exercise autonomy in medical decision making and~~
21 A physician assistant is qualified by the individual's
22 education, training and experience to provide a broad range
23 of diagnostic, therapeutic and health promotion and disease

1 prevention services. ~~The~~ A physician assistant may ~~perform~~
2 ~~those duties and responsibilities delegated to him by the~~
3 ~~supervising physician when the duties and responsibilities~~
4 ~~are provided under the supervision of a licensed physician~~
5 ~~approved by the board, within the scope of the physician's~~
6 ~~practice and expertise and within the skills of the~~
7 ~~physician assistant.~~ collaborate with or refer to the
8 appropriate member of a healthcare team as indicated by the
9 condition of the patient and the education, experience and
10 competence of the physician assistant and current standard
11 of care. The degree of collaboration shall be determined at
12 the practice level, which may include decisions made by the
13 employer, group, hospital service or the credentialing and
14 privileging systems.

15
16 (e) Except as otherwise provided by law and including
17 the restriction in W.S. 33-26-510(c), a physician assistant
18 ~~acting within the scope of the physician assistant's~~
19 ~~practice~~ may fulfill any requirement for a signature,
20 certification, stamp, verification, affidavit, endorsement
21 or other acknowledgement by a physician. ~~Nothing in this~~
22 ~~subsection shall be construed to expand the scope of~~
23 ~~practice of a physician assistant as provided in this~~

1 ~~article or to expand the duties and responsibilities~~
2 ~~delegated to a physician assistant by the physician~~
3 ~~assistant's supervising physician.~~

4
5 **33-26-503. Board powers and duties.**

6
7 (b) The board shall:

8
9 (ii) Investigate allegations that a physician
10 assistant ~~or his supervising physician~~ has engaged in
11 conduct constituting a ground for revocation in W.S.
12 33-26-402 or 33-26-508;

13
14 (v) Appoint members to serve on an advisory
15 committee to the board of medicine. ~~At least two (2) A~~
16 ~~majority~~ of the members of the advisory committee shall be
17 physician assistants. ~~and two (2) members shall be~~
18 ~~physicians.~~ The committee members are responsible to and
19 shall serve at the board's pleasure. The advisory
20 committee shall review and make recommendations to the
21 board regarding all matters relating to physician
22 assistants that come before the board, including but not be
23 limited to:

1

2 **33-26-504. License required; application;**
3 **qualifications; consideration of applications.**

4

5 (a) No person shall practice as a physician assistant
6 or represent ~~that he is~~ oneself as a physician assistant
7 without a license granted by the board.

8

9 **33-26-508. Suspension, restriction, revocation or**
10 **nonrenewal of license.**

11

12 (a) The board may refuse to renew, and may revoke,
13 suspend or restrict a license or take other disciplinary
14 action, including the imposition of conditions or
15 restrictions upon a license on one (1) or more of the
16 grounds enumerated under W.S. 33-26-402~~(a)(i) through (x),~~
17 ~~(xii) and (xiv) through (xxxiv)~~ provided that each
18 reference in W.S. 33-26-402(a) to the "practice of
19 medicine," "practice medicine," or like phrase shall be
20 deemed the "practice as a physician assistant" for purposes
21 of this section.

22

23 **33-26-510. Prescription of drugs.**

1

2 (c) ~~A physician assistant may prescribe medications~~
3 ~~only as an agent of the supervising physician.~~ A physician
4 assistant ~~may~~ shall not prescribe schedule I drugs as
5 defined by W.S. 35-7-1013 through 35-7-1014. ~~The~~
6 ~~supervising physician may delegate authority to the~~ A
7 physician assistant ~~to~~ may prescribe schedule II, III, IV
8 or V drugs as defined by W.S. 35-7-1015 through 35-7-1022.
9 A physician assistant may dispense prepackaged medications
10 in rural clinics when pharmacy services are not physically
11 available. The board shall, after consultation with the
12 state board of pharmacy, promulgate rules and regulations
13 governing the prescription of medications by a physician
14 assistant.

15

16 **Section 3.** W.S. 33-26-501(a)(i), (iii)(C) and (v)
17 through (vii), 33-26-503(b)(vii) and 33-26-504(e) through
18 (g) are repealed.

19

20 **Section 4.** This act is effective January 1, 2022.

21

22

(END)