

Ivermectin Amendments
2026 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Trevor Lee
Senate Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses dispensing ivermectin without a patient-specific prescription.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- authorizes:
 - a physician to issue a standard prescription drug order for ivermectin; and
 - a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to dispense ivermectin pursuant to a standard prescription drug order, without a patient-specific prescription;
- limits liability for:
 - a physician who issues a standard prescription drug order for ivermectin; and
 - a pharmacist or pharmacy intern who dispenses ivermectin pursuant to a standard prescription drug order;
- provides that it is not unlawful or unprofessional conduct for a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to dispense ivermectin pursuant to a standard prescription drug order;
- provides rulemaking authority; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

26B-4-501, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 173, 340 and 470

ENACTS:

26B-4-516, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26B-4-517, Utah Code Annotated 1953

31 **26B-4-518**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

32 **26B-4-519**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

33 **26B-4-520**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

34 **58-17b-508**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

36 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

37 Section 1. Section **26B-4-501** is amended to read:

38 **26B-4-501 . Definitions.**

39 As used in this part:

- 40 (1) "Controlled substance" means the same as that term is defined in Title 58, Chapter 37,
41 Utah Controlled Substances Act.
- 42 (2) "Critical access hospital" means a critical access hospital that meets the criteria of 42
43 U.S.C. Sec. 1395i-4(c)(2).
- 44 (3) "Designated facility" means:
45 (a) a freestanding urgent care center;
46 (b) a general acute hospital; or
47 (c) a critical access hospital.
- 48 (4) "Dispense" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-17b-102.
- 49 (5) "Division" means the Division of Professional Licensing created in Section 58-1-103.
- 50 (6) "Emergency contraception" means the use of a substance, approved by the United States
51 Food and Drug Administration, to prevent pregnancy after sexual intercourse.
- 52 (7) "Freestanding urgent care center" means the same as that term is defined in Section
53 59-12-801.
- 54 (8) "General acute hospital" means the same as that term is defined in Section 26B-2-201.
- 55 (9) "Health care facility" means a hospital, a hospice inpatient residence, a nursing facility,
56 a dialysis treatment facility, an assisted living residence, an entity that provides home-
57 and community-based services, a hospice or home health care agency, or another facility
58 that provides or contracts to provide health care services, which facility is licensed under
59 Chapter 2, Part 2, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection.
- 60 (10) "Health care provider" means:
61 (a) a physician, as defined in Section 58-67-102;
62 (b) an advanced practice registered nurse, as defined in Section 58-31b-102;
63 (c) a physician assistant, as defined in Section 58-70a-102; or
64 (d) an individual licensed to engage in the practice of dentistry, as defined in Section

58-69-102.

(11) "Increased risk" means risk exceeding the risk typically experienced by an individual who is not using, and is not likely to use, an opiate.

(12) "Ivermectin" means the prescription anti-parasitic drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use in humans.

~~[(12)]~~ (13) "Opiate" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-37-2.

~~[(13)]~~ (14) "Opiate antagonist" means naloxone hydrochloride or any similarly acting drug that is not a controlled substance and that is approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for the diagnosis or treatment of an opiate-related drug overdose.

~~[(14)]~~ (15) "Opiate-related drug overdose event" means an acute condition, including a decreased level of consciousness or respiratory depression resulting from the consumption or use of a controlled substance, or another substance with which a controlled substance was combined, and that a person would reasonably believe to require medical assistance.

~~[(15)]~~ (16) "Overdose outreach provider" means:

- (a) a law enforcement agency;
- (b) a fire department;
- (c) an emergency medical service provider, as defined in Section 53-2d-101;
- (d) emergency medical service personnel, as defined in Section 53-2d-101;
- (e) an organization providing treatment or recovery services for drug or alcohol use;
- (f) an organization providing support services for an individual, or a family of an individual, with a substance use disorder;
- (g) a certified peer support specialist, as defined in Section 26B-5-610;
- (h) an organization providing substance use or mental health services under contract with a local substance abuse authority, as defined in Section 26B-5-101, or a local mental health authority, as defined in Section 26B-5-101;
- (i) an organization providing services to the homeless;
- (j) a local health department;
- (k) an individual licensed to practice under:
 - (i) Title 58, Chapter 17b, Pharmacy Practice Act;
 - (ii) Title 58, Chapter 60, Part 2, Social Worker Licensing Act; or
 - (iii) Title 58, Chapter 60, Part 5, Substance Use Disorder Counselor Act; or
- (l) an individual.

~~[(16)]~~ (17) "Patient counseling" means the same as that term is defined in Section

58-17b-102.

~~[(17)]~~ (18) "Pharmacist" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-17b-102.

~~[(18)]~~ (19) "Pharmacy intern" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-17b-102.

~~[(19)]~~ (20) "Physician" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-67-102.

~~[(20)]~~ (21) "Practitioner" means:

(a) a physician; or

(b) any other person who is permitted by law to prescribe emergency contraception.

~~[(21)]~~ (22) "Prescribe" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-17b-102.

~~[(22)]~~ (23)(a) "Self-administered hormonal contraceptive" means a self-administered hormonal contraceptive that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration to prevent pregnancy.

(b) "Self-administered hormonal contraceptive" includes an oral hormonal contraceptive, a hormonal vaginal ring, and a hormonal contraceptive patch.

(c) "Self-administered hormonal contraceptive" does not include any drug intended to induce an abortion, as that term is defined in Section 76-7-301.

~~[(23)]~~ (24)(a) "Sexual assault" means any criminal conduct described in Title 76, Chapter 5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses, that may result in a pregnancy.

(b) "Sexual assault" does not include criminal conduct described in:

(i) Section 76-5-417, ~~[enticing]~~ Enticing a minor;

(ii) Section 76-5-418, ~~[sexual]~~ Sexual battery;

(iii) Section 76-5-419, ~~[lewdness]~~ Lewdness; or

(iv) Section 76-5-420, ~~[lewdness]~~ Lewdness involving a child.

~~[(24)]~~ (25) "Victim of sexual assault" means any person who presents to receive, or receives, medical care in consequence of being subjected to sexual assault.

Section 2. Section **26B-4-516** is enacted to read:

26B-4-516 . Voluntary participation.

Sections 26B-4-517 through 26B-4-519 do not create a duty or standard of care for a person to prescribe or dispense ivermectin.

Section 3. Section **26B-4-517** is enacted to read:

26B-4-517 . Authorization to dispense ivermectin.

Notwithstanding Title 58, Chapter 17b, Pharmacy Practice Act, a person licensed under Title 58, Chapter 17b, Pharmacy Practice Act, to dispense ivermectin may dispense ivermectin:

(1) to a patient who is 18 years old or older;

(2) pursuant to a standing prescription drug order issued in accordance with Section

26B-4-518;

(3) without any other prescription drug order from a person licensed to prescribe ivermectin; and

(4) in accordance with the dispensing guidelines in Section 26B-4-519.

Section 4. Section **26B-4-518** is enacted to read:

26B-4-518 . Standing prescription drug orders for ivermectin.

A physician who is licensed to prescribe ivermectin, including a physician acting in the physician's capacity as an employee of the department, or a medical director of a local health department, may issue a standing prescription drug order authorizing the dispensing of ivermectin under Section 26B-4-517 in accordance with protocol that:

(1) requires the physician to specify the persons, by professional license number, authorized to dispense ivermectin;

(2) requires the physician to review at least annually the dispensing practices of those authorized by the physician to dispense ivermectin; and

(3) is approved by the Division of Professional Licensing within the Department of Commerce by administrative rule made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

Section 5. Section **26B-4-519** is enacted to read:

26B-4-519 . Guidelines for dispensing ivermectin.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Board of Pharmacy" means the Utah State Board of Pharmacy created in Section 58-17b-201.

(b) "Medical Licensing Board" means the Medical Licensing Board created in Section 58-67-201.

(2) Before a pharmacist or pharmacy intern dispenses ivermectin under Section 26B-4-517, the pharmacist or pharmacy intern:

(a) shall obtain from the patient a completed screening risk assessment questionnaire described in Subsection (4)(a); and

(b) if the results of the screening risk assessment questionnaire described in Subsection (2)(a) indicate that it is unsafe to dispense ivermectin to a patient, may not dispense the ivermectin to the patient.

(3) A pharmacist or pharmacy intern who dispenses ivermectin under Section 26B-4-517, shall provide the patient with the standardized fact sheet described in Subsection (4)(b).

(4) The division, in collaboration with the Board of Pharmacy and the Medical Licensing

Board, shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to establish:

- (a) a screening risk assessment questionnaire to determine a patient's suitability for treatment with ivermectin that:
 - (i) identifies contraindications;
 - (ii) assesses risk factors;
 - (iii) ensures the informed consent of the patient to whom ivermectin is dispensed; and
 - (iv) assists a pharmacist or pharmacy intern in determining whether dispensing ivermectin to the patient is appropriate; and
- (b) a standardized fact sheet that includes:
 - (i) the indications and contraindications for the use of ivermectin;
 - (ii) the appropriate administration of ivermectin;
 - (iii) when the patient should see a health care provider for follow-up care or seek emergency medical care; and
 - (iv) any other information the division, the Board of Pharmacy, and the Medical Licensing Board deem appropriate.

Section 6. Section **26B-4-520** is enacted to read:

26B-4-520 . Limited civil liability for standing prescription drug orders for ivermectin.

A physician who issues a standing prescription drug order in accordance with Section 26B-4-518 is not liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions resulting from the dispensing of ivermectin under Sections 26B-4-517 and 26B-4-519.

Section 7. Section **58-17b-508** is enacted to read:

58-17b-508 . Ivermectin -- Immunity from liability -- Exclusion from unlawful or unprofessional conduct.

- (1) As used in this section, "ivermectin" means the same as that term is defined in Section 26B-4-501.
- (2) A person licensed under this chapter that dispenses ivermectin pursuant to a standing prescription drug order issued in accordance with Section 26B-4-518, is not liable for any civil damages for actions authorized by Sections 26B-4-517 and 26B-4-519, except for damages resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct.
- (3) It is not unprofessional conduct or unlawful conduct for a licensee under this chapter to dispense ivermectin pursuant to a standing prescription drug order issued in accordance with Section 26B-4-518.

201 Section 8. **Effective Date.**
202 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.