

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. 33-26-102(a)(xi)(C),
9 33-26-501(a)(ii), 33-26-502(a), (b) and (e),
10 33-26-503(b)(ii) and (v)(intro), 33-26-504(a), 33-26-508(a)
11 and 33-26-510(c) are amended to read:

12

13 **33-26-102. Definitions.**

14

1 (a) As used in this chapter:

2

3 (xi) "Practicing medicine" means any person who
4 in any manner:

5

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

16

17 ARTICLE 5

18 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

19

20 **33-26-501. Definitions.**

21

22 (a) As used in this article:

23

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

3

4 **33-26-502. Scope of W.S. 33-26-501 through 33-26-511;**
5 **signature authority.**

6

7 (a) This article does not apply to persons enrolled
8 in a physician assistant education program. ~~approved by the~~
9 ~~board.~~

10

11 (b) A physician assistant ~~assists in the practice of~~
12 is an individual who practices medicine. ~~under the~~
13 ~~supervision of a licensed physician. Within the~~
14 ~~physician/physician assistant relationship, physician~~
15 ~~assistants exercise autonomy in medical decision making and~~
16 A physician assistant is qualified by the individual's
17 education, training and experience to provide a broad range
18 of diagnostic, therapeutic and health promotion and disease
19 prevention services. ~~The~~ A physician assistant may perform
20 ~~those duties and responsibilities delegated to him by the~~
21 ~~supervising physician when the duties and responsibilities~~
22 ~~are provided under the supervision of a licensed physician~~
23 ~~approved by the board, within the scope of the physician's~~

1 ~~practice and expertise and within the skills of the~~
2 ~~physician assistant.~~ collaborate with or refer to the
3 appropriate member of a healthcare team as indicated by the
4 condition of the patient and the education, experience and
5 competence of the physician assistant and current standard
6 of care. The degree of collaboration shall be determined at
7 the practice level, which may include decisions made by the
8 employer, group, hospital service or the credentialing and
9 privileging systems.

10
11 (e) Except as otherwise provided by law and including
12 the restriction in W.S. 33-26-510(c), a physician assistant
13 ~~acting within the scope of the physician assistant's~~
14 ~~practice~~ may fulfill any requirement for a signature,
15 certification, stamp, verification, affidavit, endorsement
16 or other acknowledgement by a physician. ~~Nothing in this~~
17 ~~subsection shall be construed to expand the scope of~~
18 ~~practice of a physician assistant as provided in this~~
19 ~~article or to expand the duties and responsibilities~~
20 ~~delegated to a physician assistant by the physician~~
21 ~~assistant's supervising physician.~~

22
23 **33-26-503. Board powers and duties.**

1

2 (b) The board shall:

3

4 (ii) Investigate allegations that a physician
5 assistant ~~or his supervising physician~~ has engaged in
6 conduct constituting a ground for revocation in W.S.
7 33-26-402 or 33-26-508;

8

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

19

20 **33-26-504. License required; application;**
21 **qualifications; consideration of applications.**

22

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

4
5 **33-26-508. Suspension, restriction, revocation or**
6 **nonrenewal of license.**

7
8 (a) The board may refuse to renew, and may revoke,
9 suspend or restrict a license or take other disciplinary
10 action, including the imposition of conditions or
11 restrictions upon a license on one (1) or more of the
12 grounds enumerated under W.S. 33-26-402~~(a)(i) through (x),~~
13 ~~(xii) and (xiv) through (xxxiv)~~ provided that each
14 reference in W.S. 33-26-402(a) to the "practice of
15 medicine," "practice medicine," or like phrase shall be
16 deemed the "practice as a physician assistant" for purposes
17 of this section.

18
19 **33-26-510. Prescription of drugs.**

20
21 (c) ~~A physician assistant may prescribe medications~~
22 ~~only as an agent of the supervising physician.~~ A physician
23 assistant ~~may~~ shall not prescribe schedule I drugs as

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

11

12 **Section 2.** W.S. 33-26-501(a)(i), (iii)(C) and (v)
13 through (vii), 33-26-503(b)(vii) and 33-26-504(e) through
14 (g) are repealed.

15

16 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2021.

17

18

(END)