

Subject HIV Drugs

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Overview

This bill allows pharmacists who meet specified criteria to prescribe, dispense, and administer drugs to prevent HIV, subject to following standardized protocols developed by the Board of Pharmacy. The bill also limits the use of prior authorization or step therapy for drugs to prevent HIV.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p>Coverage for preventive services and items.</p> <p>Amends § 62Q.46, subd. 1. Prohibits health plans from requiring prior authorization or step therapy for preexposure prophylaxis, except that this may be required if the Food and Drug Administration has approved one or more therapeutic equivalents, and at least one therapeutically equivalent version is covered without prior authorization or step therapy. Provides a January 1, 2026, effective date.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Practitioner.</p> <p>Amends § 151.01, subd. 23. Includes in the definition of “practitioner” a pharmacist authorized to prescribe drugs to prevent HIV under section 151.37, subd. 17.</p> <p>Provides a January 1, 2026, effective date.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Practice of pharmacy.</p> <p>Amends § 151.01, subd. 27. Includes the following in the definition of the practice of pharmacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ prescribing, dispensing, and administering drugs to prevent HIV, if the pharmacist meets the requirements of section 151.37, subd. 17; and▪ ordering, conducting, and interpreting laboratory tests necessary for therapies that use drugs to prevent HIV, if the pharmacist meets the requirements of section 151.37, subd. 17. |

Section	Description
	Provides a January 1, 2026, effective date.
4	<p data-bbox="318 338 889 369">Drugs for preventing the acquisition of HIV.</p> <p data-bbox="318 384 808 415">Amends § 151.37, by adding subd. 17.</p> <p data-bbox="318 457 1325 527">(a) States that a pharmacist is authorized to prescribe and administer drugs to prevent HIV in accordance with this subdivision.</p> <p data-bbox="318 569 1398 674">(b) Requires the Board of Pharmacy, by January 1, 2025, to develop a standardized protocol for a pharmacist to follow in prescribing drugs under paragraph (a). Allows the board to consult with specified groups in developing the protocol.</p> <p data-bbox="318 716 1422 936">(c) Before a pharmacist is authorized to prescribe a drug under paragraph (a), requires the pharmacist to successfully complete a training program specifically developed for prescribing drugs to prevent HIV, offered by a college of pharmacy, an accredited continuing education provider, or a program approved by the board. Requires the pharmacist to complete continuing education requirements as specified by the board, in order to maintain authorization to prescribe.</p> <p data-bbox="318 978 1398 1083">(d) Before prescribing a drug under paragraph (a), requires the pharmacist to follow the appropriate standardized protocol. If appropriate, allows the pharmacist to dispense a drug described in paragraph (a).</p> <p data-bbox="318 1125 1414 1230">(e) Before dispensing a drug under paragraph (a) that is prescribed by the pharmacist, requires the pharmacist to provide counseling and specified information to the patient.</p> <p data-bbox="318 1272 1398 1419">(f) Prohibits a pharmacist from delegating prescribing authority provided under this subdivision. Allows a pharmacist intern to prepare the prescription, but requires a pharmacist authorized to prescribe under this subdivision to review, approve, and sign the prescription, before the prescription is processed or dispensed.</p> <p data-bbox="318 1461 1422 1650">(g) States that nothing in the subdivision prohibits a pharmacist from participating in the initiation, management, modification, and discontinuation of drug therapy according to a protocol authorized in this section and section 151.01, subd. 27 (authorization for participation in drug therapy under the definition of the practice of pharmacy).</p> <p data-bbox="318 1692 862 1724">Provides a January 1, 2026, effective date.</p>

Section	Description
5	<p data-bbox="316 262 576 294">Prior authorization.</p> <p data-bbox="316 304 1429 420">Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 13f. Prohibits MA from applying prior authorization and step therapy to any class of drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment or prevention of HIV/AIDS. Provides a January 1, 2026, effective date.</p>



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