

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fourth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2020

SENATE BILL 1324

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 32-3248.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 32-3248.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:

4 32-3248.01. Schedule II controlled substances; dosage limit;
5 exceptions; morphine; opioid antagonist

6 A. A health professional who is authorized under this title to
7 prescribe controlled substances may not issue a new prescription to be
8 filled or dispensed for a patient outside of a health care institution for
9 a schedule II controlled substance that is an opioid that exceeds ninety
10 morphine milligram equivalents per day.

11 B. The limit prescribed by subsection A of this section does not
12 apply to:

13 1. A continuation of a prior prescription that was issued within
14 the previous sixty days.

15 2. An opioid with a maximum approved total daily dose in the
16 labeling as approved by the United States food and drug administration.

17 3. A prescription that is issued following a surgical procedure and
18 that is limited to not more than a fourteen-day supply.

19 4. A patient who:

20 (a) Has an active oncology diagnosis.

21 (b) Has a traumatic injury, not including a surgical procedure.

22 (c) Is receiving hospice care.

23 (d) Is receiving end-of-life care.

24 (e) Is receiving palliative care.

25 (f) Is receiving skilled nursing facility care.

26 (g) Is receiving treatment for burns.

27 (h) Is receiving medication-assisted treatment for a substance use
28 disorder.

29 (i) Is hospitalized.

30 C. If a health professional believes that a patient requires more
31 than ninety morphine milligram equivalents per day and the patient is not
32 exempt from the limit pursuant to subsection B of this section, the health
33 professional shall first consult with a physician who is licensed pursuant
34 to chapter 13 or 17 of this title and who is board-certified in pain, or
35 an opioid assistance and referral call service, if available, that is
36 designated by the department of health services. The consultation may be
37 done by telephone or through telemedicine. If the opioid **ASSISTANCE AND**
38 **REFERRAL** call service agrees with the higher dose, the health professional
39 may issue a prescription for more than ninety morphine milligram
40 equivalents per day. If the consulting physician agrees with the higher
41 dose, the health professional may issue a prescription for more than
42 ninety morphine milligram equivalents per day. If the consulting
43 physician is not available to consult within forty-eight hours after the
44 request, the health professional may prescribe the amount that the health
45 professional believes the patient requires and subsequently have the

1 consultation. If the health professional is a physician who is licensed
2 pursuant to chapter 13 or 17 of this title and is board-certified in pain,
3 the health professional may issue a prescription for more than ninety
4 morphine milligram equivalents per day without a consultation under this
5 subsection.

6 D. If a patient is prescribed more than ninety morphine milligram
7 equivalents per day pursuant to subsection B or C of this section, the
8 prescribing health professional shall also prescribe for the patient
9 naloxone hydrochloride or any other opioid antagonist that is approved by
10 the United States food and drug administration for the treatment of
11 opioid-related overdoses. **THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PATIENT WHO**
12 **IS RECEIVING HOSPICE CARE OR END-OF-LIFE CARE.**

13 E. A prescription ~~order~~ for a schedule II controlled substance that
14 is an opioid that is written for more than ninety morphine milligram
15 equivalents per day is deemed to meet the requirements of an exemption
16 under this section when the prescription ~~order~~ is presented to the
17 dispenser. A pharmacist is not required to verify with the prescriber
18 whether the prescription ~~order~~ complies with this section.