

Rule Changes Effective July 8, 2018

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RULE CHANGES ADOPTED

CHAPTER 170. PAIN MANAGEMENT

The adoption of new Subchapter B, **§§170.4 - 170.8**, concerning Utilization of Opioid Antagonists. With this new Subchapter B, comes the creation of Subchapter A, Pain Management, which will be the subchapter for existing §§170.1 - 170.3

New **§170.4**, concerning Purpose, describes the legislature's recognition of the importance of preventing opioid overdose death through the use of opioid antagonists. This section further describes the purposes of Subchapter B as establishing guidelines for the prescription of opioid antagonists, identifying individuals at risk of opioids, and clarifying liability issues for physicians who prescribe opioid antagonists with good faith and reasonable care.

New **§170.5**, concerning Definitions, sets the definitions for "Prescriber," "Opioid antagonist," and "Opioid-related drug overdose."

New **§170.6**, concerning Opioid Antagonist Prescription Guidelines, sets out the guidelines describing the individuals to whom opioid antagonists may be prescribed, as well as additional guidelines identifying individuals at risk of an opioid overdose.

New **§170.7**, concerning Liability for Act or Omission with Respect to Prescribing an Opioid Antagonist, makes clear prescribers acting in good faith and in accordance with the standard of care will not be subject to civil or criminal liability, or licensure disciplinary action for prescribing or failing to prescribe an opioid antagonist, or an outcome resulting from the eventual administration of a prescription of an opioid antagonist.

New **§170.8**, concerning Documentation, sets forth the requirement that prescribers prescribing opioid antagonists shall document the prescription in the medical record of the person at risk of an opioid overdose.

CHAPTER 187. PROCEDURAL RULES

The amendment to **§187.78**, concerning Written Response, removes the undefined term "informal meeting" and replaces it with "ISC," which is defined in §187.2 of this chapter (relating to Definitions).