

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 54.1-2952.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the prescription of*
3 *certain controlled substances and devices by licensed physician assistant.*

4 [H 1963]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 54.1-2952.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 § 54.1-2952.1. Prescription of certain controlled substances and devices by licensed physician
9 assistant.

10 A. In accordance with the provisions of this section and pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 33
11 (§ 54.1-3300 et seq.) of this title, a licensed physician assistant shall have the authority to prescribe
12 controlled substances and devices as set forth in Chapter 34 (§ 54.1-3400 et seq.) of this title as follows:
13 (i) Schedules V and VI controlled substances on and after July 1, 2001, (ii) Schedules IV through VI
14 controlled substances on and after January 1, 2003, ~~and~~ (iii) Schedule III through VI controlled
15 substances on and after July 1, 2004, *and (iv) Schedules II through VI controlled substances on and*
16 *after July 1, 2007.*

17 A licensed physician assistant shall have such prescriptive authority upon the provision to the Board
18 of Medicine of such evidence as it may require that the assistant has entered into and is, at the time of
19 writing a prescription, a party to a written agreement with a licensed physician or podiatrist which
20 provides for the direction and supervision by such licensee of the prescriptive practices of the assistant.
21 Such written agreements shall include the controlled substances the physician assistant is or is not
22 authorized to prescribe and may restrict such prescriptive authority as deemed appropriate by the
23 physician or podiatrist providing direction and supervision.

24 B. It shall be unlawful for the assistant to prescribe controlled substances or devices pursuant to this
25 section unless such prescription is authorized by the written agreement between the licensee and the
26 assistant.

27 C. The Board of Medicine, in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy, shall promulgate such
28 regulations governing the prescriptive authority of physician assistants as are deemed reasonable and
29 necessary to ensure an appropriate standard of care for patients.

30 The regulations promulgated pursuant to this section shall include, at a minimum, (i) such
31 requirements as may be necessary to ensure continued physician assistant competency that may include
32 continuing education, testing, and/or any other requirement, and shall address the need to promote
33 ethical practice, an appropriate standard of care, patient safety, the use of new pharmaceuticals, and
34 appropriate communication with patients; (ii) requirements for periodic site visits by supervising
35 licensees who supervise and direct assistants who provide services at a location other than where the
36 licensee regularly practices; and (iii) a requirement that the assistant disclose to his patients the name,
37 address and telephone number of the supervising licensee and that he is a physician assistant. A separate
38 office for the assistant shall not be established.

39 D. This section shall not prohibit a licensed physician assistant from administering controlled
40 substances in compliance with the definition of "administer" in § 54.1-3401 or from receiving and
41 dispensing manufacturers' professional samples of controlled substances in compliance with the
42 provisions of this section.

ENROLLED

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