

STATE OF NEW YORK

10634

IN ASSEMBLY

June 10, 2020

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. McDonald) --
read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to instilling mydriatic or cycloplegic eye drops by persons trained and deemed qualified by supervising licensed physicians or supervising licensed optometrists; and to repeal certain provisions of such law relating thereto

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 25 of section 6530 of the education law, as
2 amended by chapter 517 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 25. [~~a.~~] Delegating professional responsibilities to a person when the
5 licensee delegating such responsibilities knows or has reason to know
6 that such person is not qualified, by training, by experience, or by
7 licensure, to perform them.

8 [~~b. A person shall be deemed qualified to assist a physician licensed
9 pursuant to article one hundred thirty-one of this title in the care of
10 a patient for the purpose of instilling mydriatic or cycloplegic eye
11 drops (hereinafter "dilating eye drops") and anesthetic eye drops in
12 conjunction with such dilating drops to the surface of the eye of a
13 patient, provided that the person instilling such dilating eye drops and
14 anesthetic eye drops is under the on-site supervision of a physician
15 pursuant to such article one hundred thirty-one and such person is over
16 the age of eighteen, successfully completes a curriculum and examination
17 approved by the department demonstrating that such person has the requi-
18 site experience to instill dilating eye drops and anesthetic eye drops
19 used in conjunction with such dilating eye drops to the surface of the
20 eye and registers with the department after paying the requisite fee in
21 accordance with the commissioner's regulations,~~]

22 § 2. Section 6527 of the education law is amended by adding a new
23 subdivision 9 to read as follows:

24 9. (a) Nothing in this article shall be construed to affect or prevent
25 a person in training or trained and deemed qualified by a supervising
26 licensed physician, to assist the licensed physician in the care of a

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 patient for the purpose of instilling mydriatic or cycloplegic eye drops
2 and anesthetic eye drops in conjunction with such dilating drops to the
3 surface of the eye of a patient, provided that the person instilling
4 such eyedrops is:

- 5 (i) under the on-site supervision of a supervising licensed physician;
6 (ii) at least eighteen years of age; and
7 (iii) complies with standards issued by the department.

8 (b) The supervising licensed physician shall submit a form prescribed
9 by the department detailing the identity of each person instilling
10 mydriatic or cycloplegic eye drops and anesthetic eye drops in conjunc-
11 tion with such dilating drops to the surface of the eye of a patient,
12 under his or her supervision, attesting to compliance with the above
13 requirements.

14 (c) The supervising licensed physician's use of any such person pursu-
15 ant to the terms of this subdivision shall be undertaken with profes-
16 sional judgment in order to ensure the safety and well-being of the
17 patient. Such use shall subject the licensed physician to the full
18 disciplinary and regulatory authority of the office of professional
19 medical conduct and the board of regents. The licensed physician must
20 notify the patient or the patient's designated health care surrogate
21 that the licensed physician may utilize the services of an individual to
22 administer certain eyedrops and must provide the patient or the
23 patient's designated health care surrogate the opportunity to refuse the
24 licensed physician's plan to utilize such person.

25 § 3. Subdivision 4 of section 7106 of the education law is REPEALED.

26 § 4. Section 7105 of the education law is amended by adding a new
27 subdivision d to read as follows:

28 d. 1. A person in training or appropriately trained and deemed quali-
29 fied by the supervising licensed optometrist, to assist a licensed opto-
30 metrist in the care of a patient for the purpose of instilling mydriatic
31 or cycloplegic eye drops and anesthetic eye drops in conjunction with
32 such dilating drops to the surface of the eye of a patient, provided
33 that the person instilling such eyedrops is:

34 (i) under the on-site supervision of a supervising licensed optome-
35 trist;

36 (ii) at least eighteen years of age; and

37 (iii) complies with standards issued by the department.

38 2. The supervising licensed optometrist shall submit a form prescribed
39 by the department, detailing the identity of each person instilling
40 mydriatic or cycloplegic eye drops and anesthetic eye drops in conjunc-
41 tion with such dilating drops to the surface of the eye of a patient,
42 under his or her supervision, attesting to compliance with the above
43 requirements.

44 3. The supervising licensed optometrist's use of any such person
45 pursuant to the terms of this subdivision shall be undertaken with
46 professional judgment in order to ensure the safety and well-being of
47 the patient. Such use shall subject the licensed optometrist to the full
48 disciplinary and regulatory authority of the board of regents and the
49 department pursuant to this title. The licensed optometrist must notify
50 the patient or the patient's designated health care surrogate that the
51 licensed optometrist may utilize the services of an individual to admin-
52 ister certain eyedrops and must provide the patient or the patient's
53 designated health care surrogate the opportunity to refuse the licensed
54 optometrist's plan to utilize such person.

55 § 5. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
56 it shall have become a law; provided however, that section one of this

1 act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as section
2 one of chapter 517 of the laws of 2019 takes effect. Effective imme-
3 diately the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation
4 necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are
5 authorized to be made and completed on or before such date.