

**Subject** Emergency Prescription Refills

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## Overview

This bill allows a pharmacist to dispense a drug without a valid prescription, if the prescription on record does not provide for a refill or the time for providing refills has elapsed, and other specified conditions are met.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<p><b>Practitioner.</b></p> <p>Amends § 151.01, subd. 23. Includes a dental therapist in the definition of practitioner, for purposes of prescriptions that may be filled under § 151.211, subd. 3 (emergency prescription refills).</p>
2	<p><b>Emergency prescription refills.</b></p> <p>Amends § 151.211, by adding subd. 3. (a) Allows a pharmacist to dispense a prescription drug, other than a Schedule II controlled substance, without a written, electronic, or oral prescription from a practitioner, if all of the following conditions are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) the patient has been on a consistent drug therapy;</li><li>(2) the pharmacy has a record of the prescription drug order for the patient, but the prescription does not provide for a refill or the time for providing refills has elapsed, and the prescriber has not indicated that no refills are authorized;</li><li>(3) the pharmacist is unable to contact the practitioner who issued the prescription, or another practitioner responsible for the patient's care, to obtain refill authorization; and</li><li>(4) in the exercise of the pharmacist's professional judgment:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) the drug is essential to sustain the life of the patient or to continue therapy for a chronic condition; and</li><li>(ii) failure to dispense the drug would harm patient health.</li></ul></li></ul>

Section	Description
	(b) Limits the amount dispensed or sold to a 30-day supply, or the standard unit of dispensing.
	(c) Prohibits a pharmacist from dispensing or selling the same drug to the same patient more than once in a 12-month period.
	(d) Requires a pharmacist to notify the practitioner who issued the prescription within 72 hours of the drug being sold or dispensed.
	(e) Requires the record of the drug sold or dispensed under this section to be maintained in the same manner as other prescriptions.



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