

**Hall of the House of Representatives**  
94th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2023  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of House Bill No. 1276**

TO EXEMPT ANTIPSYCHOTIC PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM REGULATION UNDER STEP THERAPY  
PROTOCOLS.

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**Amendment No. 2 to House Bill 1276**

Amend House Bill No. 1276 as engrossed H3/16/23 (version: 3/16/2023 9:18:29 AM):

Delete the title in its entirety, and substitute the following:

"AN ACT TO EXCLUDE ANTIPSYCHOTIC  
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM STEP THERAPY; AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

AND

Delete the subtitle in its entirety, and substitute the following:

"TO EXCLUDE ANTIPSYCHOTIC PRESCRIPTION  
DRUGS FROM STEP THERAPY."

AND

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-99-1114 is amended to read as follows:

23-99-1114. Limitation on step therapy – ~~Definition~~ Definitions.

(a) An insurance policy ~~that provides coverage for the treatment of metastatic cancer~~ shall not limit or exclude coverage under the health benefit plan for a drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that is on the prescription drug formulary of the insurance policy by mandating that a covered person ~~with metastatic cancer~~ undergo step therapy if the insurance policy provides coverage for the treatment of:

(1) Psychosis and serious mental illness through  
antipsychotic prescription drugs; and

(2) Metastatic cancer unless the preferred drug is  
consistent with best practices that:

~~(1)(A)~~ Are used for the treatment of metastatic cancer or  
associated conditions under:

~~(A)(i)~~ The United States Food and Drug



Administration-approved indication; or

~~(B)(ii)~~ The National Comprehensive Cancer Network  
Drugs and Biologics Compendium indication; or

~~(2)(B)~~ Use evidence-based, peer-reviewed, recognized  
medical literature.

(b) As used in ~~subsection (a) of this section~~;

(1) ~~“metastatic~~ “Metastatic cancer” means cancer that has spread  
from a primary or original site of the cancer to surrounding or nearby  
tissues, lymph nodes, or other parts of the body;

(2)(A) “Psychosis” means a condition that affects the mind and  
affects the way the brain processes information.

(B) “Psychosis” includes delusions and hallucinations; and

(3) “Serious mental illness” means a mental, behavioral, or  
emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, that  
substantially interferes with or limits one (1) or more major life  
activities.

(c) For psychosis and serious mental illness, if there is a generic  
drug equivalent approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration  
under the same chemical or generic name of a name brand drug that is  
available, it is not considered step therapy to allow access to and coverage  
for both the generic drug and the name brand drug.”

The Amendment was read \_\_\_\_\_

By: Representative L. Johnson  
ANS/ANS - 03-23-2023 15:00:25  
ANS351

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Chief Clerk