

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-172

State of Arkansas  
92nd General Assembly  
Second Extraordinary Session, 2020

**A Bill**

JMB/JMB  
HOUSE BILL

By: Representative L. Johnson

Filed with: House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor  
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN EMERGENCY  
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS TO A PATIENT WHO HAS A  
SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION; TO REQUIRE PARTICIPATION  
IN CARE COORDINATION BY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES;  
TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE TRANSPORT OF A PATIENT WHO HAS  
A SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

TO AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN EMERGENCY  
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS TO A PATIENT WHO  
HAS A SPECIFIC HEALTH CONDITION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-13-202, concerning the definitions under  
the Emergency Medical Services Act, is amended to add additional subdivisions  
to read as follows:

(11)(A) "Care coordination" means the coordination of healthcare  
services by healthcare professional teams to assist a patient in the  
management of his or her health care and to improve the efficiency and  
effectiveness of the healthcare sector.

(B) "Care coordination" includes without limitation:

(i) Developing potential treatment plans;

1                   (ii) Determining the optimal treatment for a patient  
2 before considering hospitalization; and

3                   (iii) Establishing alternative approaches and  
4 treatment for a patient; and

5                   (12)(A) "Specific health condition" means a health condition  
6 that requires specialized healthcare treatment.

7                   (B) "Specific health condition" includes without  
8 limitation:

9                   (i) A health condition that is listed as rare by the  
10 National Institutes of Health; and

11                   (ii) A health condition that could be fatal for  
12 which a patient seeks specialized health care.

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14           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 13, Subchapter 2, is  
15 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

16           20-13-216. Specific health condition.

17           (a) Emergency medical services personnel may administer prescription  
18 medications that are:

19                   (1) Carried by a patient;

20                   (2) Administered via routes of delivery that are:

21                           (A) Within the scope of training for emergency medical  
22 services personnel; and

23                           (B) Approved by the Emergency Medical Services Advisory  
24 Council and the State Board of Health;

25                   (3) Intended to treat a specific health condition; and

26                   (4) Not listed on the drug formulary set out by the Department  
27 of Health.

28           (b) A patient who is diagnosed with a specific health condition may  
29 request to be transported to an alternative destination facility that is  
30 farther away than the nearest facility if:

31                   (1) The alternative destination facility better meets the needs  
32 of the patient because:

33                           (A) The patient's physician and medical records are at the  
34 alternative destination facility;

35                           (B) The patient has recently been discharged from the  
36 alternative destination facility;

1                   (C) The patient has had previous hospitalizations at the  
2 alternative destination facility; and

3                   (D) The patient's complex medical history is followed at  
4 the alternative destination facility; and

5                   (2) The request is approved by the regional emergency medical  
6 services entity, including an emergency medical services board established  
7 under § 14-266-105(a)(3).

8                   (c) The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council shall establish  
9 standards for:

10                   (1) Emergency medical services personnel to communicate with  
11 patients and caregivers of patients who are diagnosed with a specific health  
12 condition about:

13                           (A) The patient's specific health condition;

14                           (B) The likelihood that the patient will need emergency  
15 medical services; and

16                           (C) The collaborative development of emergency medical  
17 service care plans to meet the patient's needs; and

18                   (2) Regional emergency medical services entities, including  
19 emergency medical services boards established under § 14-266-105(a)(3), to  
20 participate in care coordination for patients who are diagnosed with a  
21 specific health condition.

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24 Referred by Representative L. Johnson

25 Prepared by: JMB/JMB  
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