

Assembly Bill No. 1711

CHAPTER 58

An act to add Section 1261.3 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to health facilities.

[Approved by Governor July 18, 2005. Filed with
Secretary of State July 18, 2005.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1711, Strickland. Health facilities: immunizations.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of health facilities by the State Department of Health Services. Existing law regulates the procedures to be performed on a patient of a health facility, including the administration of medication, upon the specific authorization in the patient medical record or a standing order prepared by authorized medical personnel.

Existing regulations of the department authorize the use of standing orders for specified patients when authorized by a person licensed to prescribe and prohibit the use of standing orders in skilled nursing facilities.

This bill would authorize a registered nurse or licensed pharmacist to administer in skilled nursing facilities influenza and pneumococcal immunizations to a patient over 50 years of age, pursuant to standing orders and without patient-specific orders, if the immunization standing orders that are not patient specific meet prescribed federal recommendations and are approved by the medical director of the facility.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1261.3 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

1261.3. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for a patient aged 50 years or older, a registered nurse or licensed pharmacist may administer in a skilled nursing facility, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 1250, influenza and pneumococcal immunizations pursuant to standing orders and without patient-specific orders if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) The skilled nursing facility medical director, as defined in Section 72305 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, has approved the immunization standing orders established by the facility.

(2) The standing orders meet the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(b) Nothing in this section amends, alters, or restricts the scope of registered nurse practice including, but not limited to, the scope of practice set forth in Article 2 (commencing with Section 2725) of Chapter 6 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, the implementing regulations, and interpretative bulletins or practice advisories issued by the Board of Registered Nursing.