

**2015 -- S 0167 SUBSTITUTE A**

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LC000379/SUB A/4  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015**

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A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE - ACCESS TO ABUSE-DETERRENT PAIN MEDICATIONS

Introduced By: Senators Miller, Crowley, Sosnowski, Goldin, and Jabour

Date Introduced: February 05, 2015

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 27-38.2-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 27-38.2 entitled  
2 "Insurance Coverage for Mental Illness and Substance Abuse" is hereby amended to read as  
3 follows:

4           **27-38.2-1. Coverage for the treatment of mental health and substance use disorders.**

5       -- (a) A group health plan, and an individual or group health insurance plan shall provide  
6 coverage for the treatment of mental health and substance use disorders under the same terms and  
7 conditions as that coverage is provided for other illnesses and diseases.

8           (b) Coverage for the treatment of mental health and substance use disorders shall not  
9 impose any annual or lifetime dollar limitation.

10          (c) Financial requirements and quantitative treatment limitations on coverage for the  
11 treatment of mental health and substance use disorders shall be no more restrictive than the  
12 predominant financial requirements applied to substantially all coverage for medical conditions in  
13 each treatment classification.

14          (d) Coverage shall not impose non-quantitative treatment limitations for the treatment of  
15 mental health and substance use disorders unless the processes, strategies, evidentiary standards,  
16 or other factors used in applying the non-quantitative treatment limitation, as written and in  
17 operation, are comparable to, and are applied no more stringently than, the processes, strategies,  
18 evidentiary standards, or other factors used in applying the limitation with respect to  
19 medical/surgical benefits in the classification.

1 (e) The following classifications shall be used to apply the coverage requirements of this  
2 chapter: (1) Inpatient, in-network; (2) Inpatient, out-of-network; (3) Outpatient, in-network; (4)  
3 Outpatient, out-of-network; (5) Emergency care; and (6) Prescription drugs.

4 (f) Medication-assisted therapy, including methadone maintenance services, for the  
5 treatment of substance use disorders, opioid overdoses, and chronic addiction is included within  
6 the appropriate classification based on the site of the service.

7 (g) Health practitioners prescribing as permitted under § 21-28-1.02(37) and health plan  
8 coverage shall support clinical practices that foster the appropriate use of abuse-deterrent opioid  
9 analgesic drug product formulations that are so approved by the U.S. Food and Drug  
10 Administration, in accordance with subsection (c). When clinically appropriate, coverage for said  
11 abuse-deterrent formulations will not require the use of a non-deterrent opioid analgesic drug  
12 product formulation in order for patients to access abuse-deterrent products.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE - ACCESS TO ABUSE-DETERRENT PAIN MEDICATIONS

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1           This act would require health practitioners and health plan coverage to support clinical  
2 practices that foster the appropriate use of abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug product  
3 formulations.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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