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New Council Looking into Practices at Emerging Health Businesses

Wisconsin DSPS responds to concerns about public safety

Madison, Wis. — The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) is leading the formation of an Interdisciplinary Advisory Council in response to a rising number of concerns and practice questions related to new ways to deliver health care.

The Council will look at evolving businesses and practices not specifically regulated, at places like IV clinics, weight loss clinics, and ketamine clinics.

“Innovation often leads regulation,” said DSPS Secretary Dan Hereth. “In order to ensure public safety this Interdisciplinary Advisory Council will identify gaps and make recommendations to their boards about how best to address emerging areas of practice.

“The public has a perception, naturally, of regulation and safety. If someone sees a clinic in their hometown that is offering health solutions, and it is open and serving customers, then they are going to assume it is regulated and appropriately licensed; that the employees, too, have licenses to operate in their fields of practice. But that may not be the case with some of these emerging clinics, which have proliferated over recent years.”

The Interdisciplinary Advisory Council will include members from the state’s Medical Examining Board, Board of Nursing, Pharmacy Examining Board, Physician Assistant Affiliated Board, Cosmetology Examining Board, and Controlled Substances Board.

Members already named to this advisory council include:

- Kris Ferguson, Medical Examining Board representative
- Amanda K. Kane, Board of Nursing representative
- Tara E. Streit, Physician Assistant Affiliated Credentialing Board representative
- John G. Weitekamp, Pharmacy Examining Board representative

As an advisory council, the group’s role will be limited to information gathering and making recommendations.

“The council may take information they’ve gathered back to their respective boards for consideration ahead of recommendations. They may also develop and take recommendations/guidance back to their respective boards,” said Hereth. “In short, they will use

their professional knowledge to identify concerns and make potential recommendations on safe practices.”

“The Board of Nursing looks forward to collaborating with our health care colleagues to ensure the residents of Wisconsin are receiving safe, quality care,” said Interdisciplinary Advisory Council member Amanda Kane. “Currently, there is limited guidance on prescribing, management, and oversight of specialized facilities offering weight loss, IV hydration, and infusion therapies such as Ketamine. Through this collaboration, we will be able to provide guidance and recommendations for safe practices for our Wisconsin nurses.”

"I hope the new Interdisciplinary Advisory Council will investigate and determine whether current rules and regulations are sufficient to protect the public with the use of compounded sterile products in the various new hydration clinics, weight loss clinics, and medi spa clinics available in Wisconsin," add Interdisciplinary Advisory Council member John Weitekamp.

The council's first meeting is set for Thursday, August 22.

A [page has been added](#) to Boards/Councils section of the DSPS website, where people can learn more about the council's mission, members, and meeting agendas.

About DSPS:

DSPS issues more than 240 unique licenses, administers dozens of boards and councils that regulate professions, enforces state building codes, and maintains the Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which is a key tool in the multi-faceted public health campaign to stem excessive opioid prescribing. A fee-based agency, DSPS is self-sustaining and receives no general fund tax dollars for its day-to-day operations. With two offices and roughly 250 employees, DSPS collaborates with constituents and stakeholders across a wide range of industries to promote safety and advance the economy.