



To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

From: Rachelle Colombo  
Executive Director

Date: February 8, 2024

Re: SB 404; Expedited Partner Therapy

The Kansas Medical Society appreciates the opportunity to provide written comments in support of SB 404, allowing for expedited partner therapy.

SB 404 would allow for patients affected by sexually transmitted diseases to procure a prescription for themselves and their sexual partners to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. Physicians and those working under delegated medical authority would be allowed to treat both clinically presenting patients, and their partners for sexually transmitted diseases.

Under current law, a physician cannot treat a patient they have not evaluated, regardless of their exposure. Because sexually transmitted diseases have seen a dramatic increase in recent years and because treatment is not contraindicated, we believe this is in the best interest of Kansas patients to prevent the spread of treatable diseases. Sexually transmitted infections and diseases can lead to long term health complications including certain forms of cancer. But the treatment for these same diseases are low-risk and widely available antibiotic therapies with minimal side effects and are approved for broad use in the general population.

Forty-six states have passed legislation authorizing expedited partner therapy as outlined in SB 404. We respectfully request your support of SB 404 allowing for expedited partner therapy to reduce the spread of preventable disease in Kansas. Thank you.