



Posted on Fri, Dec. 07, 2007

Kansas board approves limits on fat-melting treatment

By DAVID KLEPPER
The Star's Topeka correspondent

TOPEKA | Kansas regulators on Friday passed new rules for physicians who administer Lipodissolve, a fat-melting treatment.

The restrictions say physicians must examine patients before administering Lipodissolve injections and must also disclose information about known side effects such as infection and nodules at the injection site.

The new rules were endorsed by the **Kansas Board of Healing Arts** on Friday and will take effect as soon as they are reviewed by a board that approves all state regulations.

After fielding complaints about Lipodissolve, the board voted in August to ban the treatment except when used in drug trials. The action made Kansas the first state to regulate the treatment, which has not been approved by the **Food and Drug Administration**.

But a Shawnee County District Court judge blocked the ban the day before it was to take effect. The judge was reacting to a challenge from an Overland Park physician who administers the treatment.

Since then, the board has worked with physicians who offer the treatment to write restrictions that protect patients but stop short of a ban. The result was a compromise that both sides support.

Until the state took a look at the treatment, "it was really out there without any oversight or regulation," said Mark Stafford, the board's general counsel.

The new rules endorsed Friday will expire 120 days after they go into effect. Board members said Friday that they would hold public hearings before deciding whether to make the rules permanent.

Lipodissolve consists of two naturally occurring chemicals that free fat stored in cells and eliminate it from the body.

To reach David Klepper, call 785-354-1388 or send e-mail to dklepper@kcstar.com.

© 2007 Kansas City Star and wire service sources. All Rights Reserved. <http://www.kansascity.com>