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## **Kansas State Board of Healing Arts outlaws Lipodissolve except in drug trials**

By JULIUS A. KARASH  
The Kansas City Star

TOPEKA | The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts today outlawed the use of Lipodissolve unless it is authorized by a physician as part of an investigational drug trial.

The controversial fat-melting injection "is not approved by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration)," said Mark Stafford, the board's general counsel. "We have to protect the public from the potentially disastrous effects of unproven drugs."

The restrictions are expected to take effect in mid to late September, Stafford said. The board's unanimous action covers the most common form of Lipodissolve, consisting of phosphatidylcholine and sodium dioxycholate.

The board in April passed a temporary regulation that called for more physician involvement in the administration of Lipodissolve. Today's action went beyond that, adding the provision that the compound only be used in drug trials.

The board held a public hearing on the matter last month.

Lipodissolve is a trademark name. The injections are not designed to treat obesity, but rather to flush out fatty deposits from various parts of the body when patients can't get rid of them through diet and exercise.

It is not clear how many Kansas businesses will be impacted by the new restrictions and to what degree. Stafford said the board did not have firm numbers on Kansans who have received the injections or the number of Kansas facilities that administer Lipodissolve. However, he said the board has been aware of perhaps a dozen such facilities on the Kansas side of the Kansas City metropolitan area recently.

Stafford said the board has received at least half a dozen complaints about facilities that give the injections. He said the complaints, which are under investigation, include problems involving business practices and adverse reactions to the injections, such as nodules, infections and nausea.

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