

Chapter 25 Regulations Pertaining to Prescribing, Administering and Dispensing of Medication

Prescription Guidelines - All Medications

- 1000 In addition to any other requirements set forth in these regulations pertaining to the issuance of prescriptions of controlled substances, the following additional requirements apply to all prescriptions, whether or not said prescriptions are for controlled substances, legend drugs or any other medication:
1. Electronic prescription transmissions are allowed using standards established and approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services - Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (HHS-AHRO). E-prescribing is the electronic entry of a prescription by a practitioner, the secure electronic transmission of the prescription to a pharmacy, the receipt of an electronic message by the pharmacy and E-prescription renewal requests sent electronically by the pharmacy to the practitioner. Electronic transmissions may be computer to computer or computer to facsimile.
 42. Every written prescription delivered to a patient, or delivered to any other person on behalf of a patient, must be manually signed on the date of issuance by the physician. This does not prohibit, however, the transmission of electronically telefaxed (but not e-mail) prescriptions for non-controlled drugs to the pharmacy of the patient's choice. Such telefaxed or electronic prescriptions shall bear the signature of the prescribing physician and shall be issued in accordance with all other provisions of this section. No prescriptions for brand name or generic equivalents of Nalbuphine Hcl, Carisoprodol, Butalbital compounds, or Tramadol Hcl shall be telefaxed or electronically transmitted.
 23. All prescriptions shall be on forms containing two lines for the physician's signature. There shall be a signature line in the lower right-hand corner of the prescription form beneath which shall be clearly imprinted the words "substitution permissible." There shall be a signature line in the lower left corner of the prescription form beneath which shall be clearly imprinted the words "dispense as written." The physician's signature on either signature line shall validate the prescription and designate approval or disapproval of product selection. The prescription form shall bear the pre-printed name of the physician, or the physician shall clearly print his or her name on the prescription form, in addition to the physician's original signature. In the event that the prescription form bears the pre-printed name of more than one physician, the physician shall clearly indicate the name of the physician writing the prescription.
 34. If a prescription form which does not contain two signature lines required in Section 1000.2 of this Chapter is utilized by the physician, he or she shall write in his or her own handwriting the words "dispense as written" thereupon to prevent product selection.
 45. Every written prescription issued by a physician for a legend drug should clearly state whether or not the prescription should be refilled, and if so, the number of authorized refills and/or the duration of therapy. Physicians should avoid issuing

prescriptions refillable on “prn” basis. If a physician chooses to issue a prescription refillable “prn”, the life of the prescription or time limitation must clearly be set forth on the prescription. In no case shall a prescription which is refillable on a “prn” basis be refilled after the expiration of one (1) year. Regardless of whether a prescription is refillable on a “prn” basis or the prescription expressly states the number of authorized refills, the use of said medication should be re-evaluated on at least an annual basis. Upon the expiration of one (1) year, a prescription becomes invalid, regardless of the number of refills indicated or “prn” designation. Thereafter, a new prescription, if indicated, must be issued.

Every written prescription issued by a physician, bearing more than one non-controlled medication, shall clearly indicate the intended refill instructions for each medication. Lack of clearly indicated refill instructions prohibit the refilling of the medications. All unused lines on a multi-line prescription blank shall be clearly voided by the issuing physician.

56. A prescription shall no longer be valid after the occurrence of any one of the following events:
- a. Thirty (30) days after the death of the issuing physician.
 - b. Thirty (30) days after the issuing physician has moved or otherwise changed the location of his or her practice so as to terminate the doctor/patient relationship. Termination of the doctor/patient relationship results when a patient is no longer able to seek personal consultation or treatment from the issuing physician.
 - c. Insofar as controlled substances are concerned, immediately after loss of DEA Controlled Substances Privilege by the issuing physician.
 - d. Immediately after revocation, suspension or surrender of the physician's license.