
ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTIONS

FACT SHEET

INTRODUCTION

The Board's staff regularly receives questions from pharmacists, pharmaceutical technicians, and physicians and their staffs regarding electronic prescriptions. This fact sheet is intended to clarify the present Nevada law regarding electronic prescriptions.

INFORMATION FOR PHARMACISTS

- Controlled substances in schedule II cannot be prescribed using an electronic prescription.ⁱ
- An electronically generated signature or security code is acceptable on an electronic prescription as long as the signature or security code can be verified as originating with the prescribing practitioner's office.ⁱⁱ
- As a practical matter, when a pharmacy receives its first electronic prescription from a given prescribing practitioner's office, the pharmacy should verify the prescription to assure that it originated with the prescribing practitioner, but verification is not legally required for every subsequent prescription.
- All regular rules regarding prescriptions remain the same regarding electronic prescriptions.
- Paper prescriptions generated by an electronic prescription system must be manually signed by the prescribing practitioner or must be printed on security paper. Prescriptions printed on security paper do not need to be signed.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Electronic prescriptions that are received either by facsimile machine or that were printed at the prescribing practitioner's office must be maintained like any other prescription in the pharmacy's paper files.^{iv} Electronic prescriptions received computer-to-computer may be electronically stored.^v

INFORMATION FOR PRESCRIBING PRACTITIONERS

- Controlled substances in schedule II cannot be prescribed using an electronic prescription.^{vi}
- An electronic prescription system must be approved by the Board **BEFORE** the system can be used.^{vii}
- An electronic prescription transmitted by computer-to-computer or by computer-to-facsimile may have an electronically generated signature or a security code as long as the signature or security code is known to or verifiable by the pharmacy.^{viii} The indication "electronic signature on file" is insufficient unless the practitioner is identified and unless the prescription contains a verifiable security code.
- If an electronic prescription system generates a prescription on paper that will be given to the patient for the patient to take to a pharmacy, the prescription **MUST**
 - Be manually signed by the prescribing practitioner, or
 - Be printed on security paper (e.g. paper that cannot be reproduced).^{ix}

ⁱ NAC 639.7102(8).

ⁱⁱ NAC 639.7201(2)(d).

ⁱⁱⁱ NAC 639.7102(6).

^{iv} NAC 639.7102(4)(a).

^v NAC 639.7102(4)(b) and (5).

^{vi} NAC 639.7102(8).

^{vii} NAC 639.7102(1)(a). The criteria for approval of a computer system are found in NAC 639.7102(2).

^{viii} NAC 639.7102(2)(d).

^{ix} NAC 639.7102(6).