
RECENT REGULATORY CHANGES REQUIRING REPORTING BY DISPENSING PRACTITIONERS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES PRESCRIPTIONS

INTRODUCTION

On October 22, 2004, a new regulation became effective regarding new requirements for dispensing practitioners regarding their obligation to report their controlled substances prescription data to the Nevada Prescription Controlled Substances Abuse Prevention Task Force (the Task Force). This Fact Sheet is intended to highlight the most pertinent changes, all of which are presently effective and in force.

REPORTING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES PRESCRIPTIONS TO THE TASK FORCE

By January 1, 2005, all dispensing practitioners who dispense controlled substances must comply with the following:

- Have a computer system into which all controlled substances prescriptions or prescription data that are dispensed by the dispensing practitioner (*NO MORE PAPER-ONLY PRESCRIPTION RECORD SYSTEMS FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES*).
- Have the ability within the computer system to transmit certain specified data fields to the Task Force's vendor (Atlantic Associates).
- Begin transmitting the data to the Task Force twice a month (*BY THE 5TH AND 20TH OF EACH MONTH*).

- Obtain an NCPDP Provider Number (an application is attached or can be provided upon request).

ASSISTANCE WITH COMPLIANCE

While pharmacies have been reporting controlled substances prescription data since 1997, the requirement that dispensing practitioners do so is new with this regulation. Consequently, questions or concerns regarding compliance should be directed to Atlantic Associates at (888) 492-7341.

Dispensing practitioners' offices and operations will be inspected beginning in 2005 for compliance with the new regulations. A failure to comply may result in administrative action.

If a dispensing practitioner desires to cease dispensing of controlled substances rather than comply with the new regulations, the dispensing practitioner should notify the Board in writing and enclose with the notice the dispensing registration.

SPECIAL NOTE

The new regulations only apply to controlled substances, which now include Soma (carisoprodol), dispensed by a dispensing practitioner. Dispensing practitioners who only dispense dangerous drugs are not affected.