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## **SOMA/CARISOPRODOL SCHEDULING AS A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE FACT SHEET**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

On July 13, 2004, Soma/carisoprodol was legally scheduled as a controlled substance in schedule IV. Because most pharmacists, pharmacies, practitioners, and wholesalers have not been part of changing a dangerous drug to a controlled substances, the Board offers the following guidance and tips.

### **FOR PHARMACIES & PHARMACISTS**

- All new prescriptions for Soma/carisoprodol received after **August 1, 2004** must be treated as controlled substances prescriptions. If you have filled such prescriptions as dangerous drugs because you were unaware of the change, please locate the prescriptions, move them into your controlled substances filing system, make the appropriate changes in your computer system, and treat all refills as controlled substances refills.
- All existing prescriptions for Soma/carisoprodol received before **August 1, 2004** will need to be treated as controlled substances upon the next refill of the prescription, meaning that when they are refilled they should be filed in the controlled substances filing system. If the refill is the fifth or higher for that prescription, refill it and inform the patient and practitioner that it cannot be refilled again and that a new prescription needs to be issued.
- Soma/carisoprodol prescriptions will need to be reported to the Prescription Controlled Substance Abuse Prevention

Task Force beginning in the September 2004 reporting period. Please assure that the appropriate changes are made in your computer system to accommodate this new reporting requirement.

- Soma/carisoprodol needs to be accounted for as a controlled substance in your biennial inventory and change-of-managing-pharmacist inventories. You should also note your August 1, 2004 inventory of Soma/carisoprodol products.

### **FOR PRACTITIONERS**

- All prescriptions written for Soma/carisoprodol starting August 1, 2004 must adhere to controlled substances prescribing rules (no more than six months and no more than five refills).
- If a practitioner is a dispensing practitioner, Soma/carisoprodol must immediately be stored and secured as a controlled substance, and the controlled substances recordkeeping requirements also immediately apply.

### **FOR WHOLESALERS**

- Wholesalers should assure that their recordkeeping is modified to account for Soma/carisoprodol as a controlled substance whenever it is sold into or out of Nevada. Starting immediately, Soma/carisoprodol should be stored and secured as a controlled substance.