
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTIONS

FACT SHEET

INTRODUCTION

On December 17, 2001, the Board's new regulations regarding controlled substance prescriptions became effective. Copies of the regulation amendments may be obtained at www.state.nv.us/pharmacy/ under the "Regulation" tab.

CHANGES & DIFFERENCES FROM THE OLD LAW

- Schedule II prescriptions may now be preprinted, typewritten, or written in ink by somebody other than the practitioner as long as the practitioner signs the prescription.ⁱ
- A pharmacist may add to or change on a CII prescription the strength of the controlled substance, the quantity of the controlled substance, or the directions for use IF the pharmacist has spoken to the prescribing practitioner only (not an agent) AND the pharmacist initials the change or addition, noting the date and time of the prescribing practitioner's approval and the reason for the change or addition.ⁱⁱ
- If a prescription for a CII is on the same blank as other prescriptions, a pharmacist may fill and cancel the CII and file it and may make a copy of the prescription blank to fill and file the other prescriptions. The pharmacist must note on the copied prescriptions the prescription number of the CII prescription.ⁱⁱⁱ
- A pharmacist may add to a controlled substance prescription a practitioner's address or DEA number or a patient's address without contacting the practitioner or patient if the missing information is readily available to the pharmacist from the pharmacy's records or computer. If the pharmacist adds the missing information, he or she must initial the addition and write "RA," "readily available," "in files," "on computer," or other similar notation.^{iv} If the DEA number was not readily available to the pharmacist, a pharmacist may add the DEA number after obtaining verification from the practitioner, the practitioner's agent, or the

board. If the pharmacist adds the DEA number, he or she must initial the addition and make a notation of which the pharmacist spoke with.^v

- A controlled substance prescription does not need a DEA number if it is written by a member of the military service or who is exempted by 21 CFR §1301.23 (Indian Health Service, Public Health Service, etc.). Instead, the prescriber may use his or her service identification number or social security number.^{vi}

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS THAT ARE NOW IN THE NEW REGULATION

- A pharmacist may *NOT* add or change on a CII prescription the name of the patient, the name of the controlled substance (except that he or she may change the name to reflect the generic name), the signature of the prescribing practitioner, or the date that the prescription was issued.^{vii}
- A pharmacist may dispense a CII prescription *ONLY* pursuant to a written prescription (including a faxed prescription) or pursuant to an emergency oral prescription under NAC 453.420.^{viii}
- CIII, CIV, and CV prescriptions may be transmitted by fax machine as long as they contain the prescribing practitioner's signature.^{ix}
- If the patient's address is not on a controlled substance prescription and the patient's address is not known or readily available to the pharmacist, the pharmacist shall: (1) obtain positive identification from the patient to verify the identity and address, or (2) verify the patient's identity and address with the prescribing practitioner.^x

ⁱ Sec. 2(1).
ⁱⁱ Sec. 2(5)(a) & (c).
ⁱⁱⁱ Sec. 3(2).
^{iv} Sec. 2(3).
^v Sec. 2(4)(c).
^{vi} Sec. 2(2).
^{vii} Sec. 2(5)(b).
^{viii} Sec. 3(1).
^{ix} Sec. 1(4).
^x Sec. 2(4)(a).