

**657—21.7 (124,155A) Electronically prepared prescriptions.** A prescriber may initiate and authorize a prescription drug order utilizing a computer or other electronic communication or recording device. The prescription drug order shall contain all information required by Iowa Code section 155A.27. The receiving pharmacist shall be responsible for verifying the authenticity of an electronically transmitted prescription or of an electronic signature as provided by rule 657—8.19(124,126,155A) or 21.3(124,155A).

**21.7(1) *Controlled substances.*** A prescription for a controlled substance prepared pursuant to this rule may be transmitted to a pharmacy via facsimile transmission as provided by rule 21.9(124,155A) or rules 21.12(124,155A) through 21.16(124,155A). The transmitted prescription shall include the prescriber's original signature or electronic signature.

**21.7(2) *Noncontrolled prescription drugs.*** A prescription for a noncontrolled prescription drug prepared pursuant to this rule may be transmitted to a pharmacy via computer-to-computer transmission as provided in rule 21.8(124,155A) or via facsimile transmission as provided in rule 21.9(124,155A). The transmitted prescription shall include the prescriber's original signature or electronic signature.

**21.7(3) *Printed (hard-copy) prescriptions.*** A prescription prepared pursuant to this rule may be printed by the prescriber or prescriber's agent for delivery to a pharmacy.

*a.* A prescription for a controlled substance shall include the prescriber's original signature.

*b.* If the prescriber authenticates a prescription for a noncontrolled prescription drug utilizing an electronic signature, the printed prescription shall be printed on security paper that is designed to prevent photocopying or other duplication of the printed prescription by prominently disclosing the word "void" or "copy" on the duplication or by including a watermark or background that will not appear on duplication. If a watermark or background is used, the prescription shall include a statement that unless the watermark or background appears, the prescription is not valid.

*c.* When a prescription prepared pursuant to this subrule is transmitted to a pharmacy via facsimile, or when a prescription prepared pursuant to this subrule is scanned into an electronic record system, the watermark or background will not appear or the word "void" or "copy" will appear. The means of transmission via facsimile and the means of scanning into an electronic record system shall ensure that prescription information is not obscured or rendered illegible due to security features of the paper utilized by the prescriber to prepare the prescription. It is the responsibility of the pharmacist to verify the validity of the prescription as provided by rule 657—8.19(124,126,155A) or 657—21.3(124,155A).