

657—10.24(124,126,155A) Prescription requirements. All prescriptions for controlled substances shall be dated as of, and signed on, the day issued. Controlled substances prescriptions shall be valid for six months following date of issue. A prescription for a Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance may include authorization to refill the prescription no more than five times within the six months following date of issue. A prescription for a Schedule II controlled substance shall not be refilled. Beginning January 1, 2020, all prescriptions for controlled substances shall be transmitted electronically to a pharmacy pursuant to rule 657—21.6(124,155A), except as provided in rule 657—21.8(124,155A).

10.24(1) Form of prescription. All prescriptions for controlled substances shall bear the full name and address of the patient; the drug name, strength, dosage form, quantity prescribed, and directions for use; and the name, address, and DEA registration number of the prescriber. All prescriptions for controlled substances issued by individual prescribers shall include the legibly preprinted, typed, or hand-printed name of the prescriber as well as the prescriber's written or electronic signature. A prescription for a controlled substance issued prior to January 1, 2020, or a prescription for a controlled substance that is exempt from the electronic prescription mandate pursuant to rule 657—21.8(124,155A), may be transmitted via nonelectronic methods as described in this rule.

a. When an oral order is not permitted, or when a prescriber is unable to prepare and transmit an electronic prescription in compliance with DEA requirements for electronic prescriptions, prescriptions shall be written with ink, indelible pencil, or typed print and shall be manually signed by the prescriber. If the prescriber utilizes an electronic prescription application that meets DEA requirements for electronic prescriptions, the prescriber may electronically prepare and transmit a prescription for a controlled substance to a pharmacy that utilizes a pharmacy prescription application that meets DEA requirements for electronic prescriptions.

b. A prescriber's agent may prepare a prescription for the review, authorization, and manual or electronic signature of the prescriber, but the prescribing practitioner is responsible for the accuracy, completeness, and validity of the prescription.

c. An electronic prescription for a controlled substance shall not be transmitted to a pharmacy except by the prescriber in compliance with DEA regulations.

d. A prescriber shall securely maintain the unique authentication credentials issued to the prescriber for utilization of the electronic prescription application and authentication of the prescriber's electronic signature. Unique authentication credentials issued to any individual shall not be shared with or disclosed to any other prescriber, agent, or individual.

e. A corresponding liability rests upon the pharmacist who fills a prescription not prepared in the form prescribed by this rule.

10.24(2) Verification by pharmacist.

a. The pharmacist shall verify the authenticity of the prescription with the individual prescriber or the prescriber's agent in each case when a written or oral prescription for a Schedule II controlled substance is presented for filling and neither the prescribing individual practitioner issuing the prescription nor the patient or patient's agent is known to the pharmacist. The pharmacist shall verify the authenticity of the prescription with the individual prescriber or the prescriber's agent in any case when the pharmacist questions the validity of, including the legitimate medical purpose for, the prescription. The pharmacist is required to record the manner by which the prescription was verified and include the pharmacist's name or unique identifier.

b. A pharmacist who receives a written, oral, or facsimile prescription shall not be required to verify that the prescription is subject to an exception to the electronic prescription mandate provided in rule 657—21.8(124,155A) and may dispense a prescription drug pursuant to an otherwise valid written, oral, or facsimile prescription pursuant to this rule.

10.24(3) Intern, resident, foreign physician. An intern, resident, or foreign physician exempt from registration pursuant to subrule 10.8(5) shall include on all prescriptions issued the hospital's registration number and the special internal code number assigned by the hospital in lieu of the prescriber's registration number required by this rule. Each prescription shall include the stamped or legibly printed name of the prescribing intern, resident, or foreign physician as well as the prescriber's signature.

10.24(4) *Valid prescriber/patient relationship.* Once the prescriber/patient relationship is broken and the prescriber is no longer available to treat the patient or to oversee the patient's use of the controlled substance, a prescription shall lose its validity. A prescriber/patient relationship shall be deemed broken when the prescriber dies, retires, or moves out of the local service area or when the prescriber's authority to prescribe is suspended, revoked, or otherwise modified to exclude authority for the schedule in which the prescribed substance is listed. The pharmacist, upon becoming aware of the situation, shall cancel the prescription and any remaining refills. However, the pharmacist shall exercise prudent judgment based upon individual circumstances to ensure that the patient is able to obtain a sufficient amount of the drug to continue treatment until the patient can reasonably obtain the service of another prescriber and a new prescription can be issued.

10.24(5) *Facsimile transmission of a controlled substance prescription.* With the exception of an authorization for emergency dispensing as provided in rule 657—10.26(124), a prescription for a controlled substance in Schedules II, III, IV and V may be transmitted via facsimile from a prescriber to a pharmacy only as provided in rule 657—21.7(124,155A).

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