



CANNON BUILDING
861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

TELEPHONE: (302) 744-4500
FAX: (302) 739-2711
WEBSITE: DPR.DELAWARE.GOV
EMAIL: customerservice.dpr@state.de.us

E-PRESCRIBING UPDATE

Did you know...

- Most community pharmacies in the U.S. can now accept e-prescriptions?
- Almost half of all physicians nationwide are now e-prescribing non-controlled substances?

The days of the paper prescription pad may be numbered. According to a new report from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, community pharmacies that can accept e-prescriptions rose from 76% to 94% from December 2008 through June 2012. Over the same time period, the number of U.S. physicians using e-prescriptions for non-controlled substances increased from 7% to 48%. The report also indicates that about 45% of new and renewal prescriptions in 2012 were sent electronically in 2012.

How are we doing here at home? In 2011, Delaware ranked No. 4 in the "Top Ten" e-prescribing states for non-controlled substances, up from No. 5 in 2010. Only Minnesota, Massachusetts and South Dakota ranked higher. (Results for 2012 are not yet available.)

What about controlled substance e-prescribing? The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) proposed regulations for e-prescribing controlled substances in June 2010. However, controlled substance e-prescribing did not go into effect on a broad scale until the summer of 2012. Before pharmacies and practitioners could transition to e-prescribing controlled substances, technology that would meet the DEA's new security and other regulatory requirements had to be developed and implemented. Your Delaware Board of Pharmacy and Office of Controlled Substances can offer prescribers and pharmacists guidance on the DEA's e-prescribing software requirements and on legal issues related to controlled substance e-prescribing in Delaware.



For more information on the DEA regulations for e-prescribing, see http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/ecom/e_rx/index.html. For guidance on implementing e-prescribing in Delaware, contact the Board office at (302) 744-4500 or email customerservice.dpr@state.de.us.

The Division of Professional Regulation will continue to provide updates as the implementation continues.