

## CHANGES FROM THE ONYSRX PROGRAM

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Stickers will invalidate an ONYSRX

A Health Provider Network account is required for:

- ❖ Computer paper for printing ONYSRX
- ❖ Listing multiple prescribers on an ONYSRX

Pharmacists can fill computer-generated white blanks for NC-Rx from exempted institutions that have the state-issued validation sticker affixed to the Rx.

## ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING

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No ONYSRX is required for electronically transmitted prescriptions, but they must be transmitted by the prescriber

Medicaid Rx's that are Brand Medically Necessary or require Prior Authorization, controlled substance, or syringe/needle Rx's cannot be sent electronically.

Any Rx printed in the prescriber's office must be on the ONYSRX paper supplied by the BNE and requires a hand-written signature.

Medicaid will offer monetary incentives for prescribers and pharmacies who transmit and receive electronic prescriptions, beginning January 1, 2010.

NPI number is required for electronic prescriptions

## COMMON CONVENTIONS

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Rx's expire after 1 year (Insurance & Pharmacy policies)

Most Rx's are accepted across state lines.

A pharmacy may partial fill a NC-Rx though some insurers may require prescriber authorization. For some insurances, this will count as a complete fill. Other insurances will allow a partial fill.

Some pharmacists can teach self-injection and inhaler use in addition to drug counseling.

Medical orders (used in hospitals and nursing homes) are not Rx's. If received, some pharmacies may treat these as oral Rx's, or disregard them and request new Rx's.

Insulin doses need to be specified so appropriate quantities can be dispensed.

## COMMON INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

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Some insurances will allow early refills.

The prescriber's DEA number may be required by some insurers for NC-Rx.

EPIC will allow the greater of 30 days or 100 dose units.

Mail-order and commercial insurers will frequently allow prescriptions for a 90 day supply with refills – subject to quantity limitations on the first fill.

- When allowed by law, most pharmacists will automatically adjust the quantity per insurer's allowed amount on the first fill.
- It is the patient's responsibility to mail Rx's to mail-order pharmacies.
- Certain drugs are not available through mail-order, depending on the plan.

## COMMON CONTROLLED DRUGS AND SCHEDULES\*

### CII

Percocet  
Anabolic Steroids  
Methylphenidate

### CIV

Ambien  
Codeine/APAP syrup  
Darvocet N100  
Sonata

### CIII

Tylenol w/Codeine  
Lortab Elixer  
Vicodin

### CV

Lomotil

*\* Not a comprehensive list. The list in no way implies preferred or therapeutically appropriate agents*

**Please note:** Controlled substance regulations are far more detailed than presented in this brochure.

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# PRESCRIPTION WRITING

## 2010

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## A Reference for New York State Prescribers



## Essential Regulations, Paraphrased, Governing:

- ☞ Verbal and Written Orders
- ☞ Non-Controlled Drugs
- ☞ Medicaid
- ☞ Controlled Substances
- ☞ Syringes and Needles

## MEDICAID AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ORAL ORDERS\*

### LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIPTIONS

#### **Absence of the following invalidates an Rx and cannot be added by a pharmacist:**

- Patient Name
- Medication Name
- Stamped / Imprinted Prescriber's Name
- Prescriber's Signature
- Date the Rx is written
- Drug Quantity (for controlled substances)

#### **Absence of the following may generate a call-back by a pharmacist:**

- Medication Strength and Quantity
- Specific Directions (UD is not sufficient)
- Number of Refills Authorized (PRN = 1)
  - Medicaid Rx is limited to 5 refills
  - CIII, CIV, CV limited to 5 refills
    - Number AND word e.g. 5 (five)
  - CII/Benzo– No Refills
- Prescriber's Address\*
- Prescriber's Telephone Number\*
- Prescriber's Profession\*
- Patient's Address/Age/DOB\*
- 'DAW' written in prescriber's handwriting, if brand desired

\*if not in pharmacy system

#### Also for Controlled Substances

- Prescriber or Facility DEA #
- Dosage Form
- Therapy Code
- Maximum Daily Dose (MDD)

#### **Abbreviations used:**

- Rx:** Prescription
- NC-Rx:** Non-controlled Prescription
- ONYSRX:** Official New York State Rx
- BNE:** Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement

| Oral Orders                              | Quantity Allowed                         | Refills Allowed | Cover Required | Comments  |
|--|--|-----------------|----------------|---|
| <b>Medicaid</b>                          | 30 days**                                | Yes             | No             | **Not applicable to maintenance drugs.  |
| <b>Controls: CII and Benzodiazepines</b> | 5 days                                   | None            | 72 hours       | The pharmacist is <b>required</b> to notify the NYS DOH within 7 days of dispensing if no cover is received |
| <b>Controls: CIV</b>                     | 30 days or 100 doses (whichever is less) | None            | 72 hours       | RPh is required to note lack of cover on oral order.  |
| <b>Controls: CIII and CV</b>             | 5 days                                   | None            | 72 hours       | RPh is required to note lack of cover on oral order.  |
| <b>Syringes &amp; Needles</b>            | 100 units                                | None            | 72 hours       | RPh is required to note lack of cover on oral order. Refills on cover not addressed.                        |

\*Faxed orders for controlled substances follow the same requirements and limitations of oral orders UNLESS: the recipient is in a hospice program or Residential Healthcare Facility, the dispensing pharmacy has a written agreement with hospice program or RHCF, and the prescriber indicated on the prescription the patient is a "hospice patient" or "RHCF patient".

### MEDICAID

Rx expires 180 days from date written and must be filled within 60 days.

Rxs for Over-The-Counter (OTC) drugs follow the same rules as non-OTC drugs and do not require a cover.

'Brand Medically Necessary' and prior authorization number must appear on the Rx if brand is desired for drugs with A-rated generics.

A 90 day supply with 1 refill is allowed for chronic medications with exceptions for very expensive drugs.

### MISCELLANEOUS

ESAP (Expanded Syringe Access Program) in New York State allows patients 18 years of age and older to purchase – with their own money – up to 10 syringes and needles without a prescription at participating pharmacies.

Faxed NC-Rxs follow the same rules as written Rxs.

The Rx can be used to hold additional instructions to the pharmacist beyond those intended for the patient.

If multiple prescribers are printed on an Rx, the writer must indicate his/her printed name. A PA must have the supervising physician's imprinted name on the Rx.

#### *Helpful Numbers*

BNE 866-811-7957  
 Board of Pharmacy (518) 474-3817 x130

### CONTROLLED DRUGS

Oral orders must come directly from prescriber.

Rx must be filled within 30 days of writing.

CIII, CIV, and CV refills are honored up to 180 days.

No Rx can be written by a prescriber if the patient has >7 day supply of drug from any previous Rx (80.69C).

No pre/post-dating allowed – Date reflects date signed.

Prescriber may authorize early refill. Otherwise, no refill allowed if >7 day supply of drug from any previous fill.

Controlled substances cannot be sampled, but vouchers are acceptable when presented with a valid Rx

The Code/Condition can be used on any schedule Rx

Limited to 30 day supply without Code/Condition:

- Code/Condition allows >30 days but only 1 Refill is allowed (except CII/Benzos)
- Code/Condition allows up to 3 month supply
- Code/Condition for Anabolic Steroid allows up to 6 months supply

#### **Code/Condition for Controlled Drugs:**

- Code A – Panic Disorders
- Code B – Minimal brain dysfunction or ADHD
- Code C – Chronic, debilitating neurological condition
- Code D – Pain from diseases chronic or incurable
- Code E – Narcolepsy
- Code F – Hormone Deficiency