



An Arizona Campaign to Increase the E-Prescribing of Controlled Substances

The e-prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS) improves patient safety, quality and practice workflow in addition to reducing fraud and prescribing errors. In addition, EPCS will be a state requirement for all prescriptions of a schedule II controlled substance, that is an opioid on January 1, 2020.

Arizona Opioid E-Prescribing Requirement

HB 2075 signed by Governor Ducey on February 14, 2019, amends the Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act and requires all Arizona providers to electronically prescribe any schedule II controlled substance, by January 1, 2020. It also removed the waiver process in the original legislation.

Benefits of EPCS

- Improves prescribing workflow with all prescriptions managed/stored in one application
- Improves patient safety and quality
- Reduces fraud and helps fight the opioid epidemic
- Accepted by nearly all Arizona pharmacies
- Complies with Arizona State mandates and DEA regulatory requirements
- Promotes Interoperability program Meaningful Use Measures

Improves Patient Care

E-prescribing is a recognized and proven effective tool to improve patients' health outcomes and reduce costs.

- Prescription **errors can be reduced by 50%** or more by using clinical drug alerts
- Improves patient safety by **automatically** saving the new e-prescription in the patient's drug file versus flipping through a paper chart to find the medication list
- The combination of medication history and clinical decision support in an EHR assists the provider in making critical patient care decisions

Security and Time Savings

- E-prescriptions are much more secure than paper prescriptions which can be tampered with, lost or stolen
- Pharmacist is able to be certain of prescribing provider's orders when prescription is received electronically
- Prescriber's DEA number no longer appears on paper prescriptions
- One workflow for non-controlled and controlled substance prescriptions
- Prescribers have access to patient's health plan drug coverage information
- Eliminates phone calls and inaccuracies