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Board of Registration in Pharmacy

Policy 2023-10: Unfilled Prescriptions

This policy outlines procedures for pharmacies to send and receive certain unfilled prescriptions for initial filling.

I. Unfilled Original Electronic Prescriptions for Controlled Substances (“EPCS”) in Schedules II – V

On a one-time basis, unfilled EPCS for Schedules II – V may be [electronically transmitted](#) from one pharmacy to another without any alteration of the prescription contents in accordance with [21 CFR 1306.08](#).

II. Unfilled Paper, Fax, or Oral Prescriptions for Controlled Substances in Schedules II – V

The DEA does not permit the transfer of any original unfilled paper, fax, or oral prescription for federally controlled substances. Entering such prescriptions into an electronic database does not transform them into EPCS. They remain subject to all the regulations applicable to paper, fax, and oral prescriptions.

III. Unfilled Electronic, Paper, Fax, or Oral Prescriptions for Controlled Substances in Schedule VI

Unfilled electronic, paper, fax, and oral Schedule VI prescriptions may either be electronically transmitted or transferred to another pharmacy in accordance with [247 CMR 9.00](#).

Supersedes Policy 2022-03

Please direct any questions to: Pharmacy.Admin@mass.gov