



PHARMACY FACTS

*Current information for pharmacists about
the MassHealth Pharmacy Program*

www.mass.gov/masshealth-pharmacy-facts

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Buprenorphine Prescribing

In an effort to continue to promote access to medication for addiction treatment (MAT), MassHealth will no longer require a separate validation of a current Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) waiver to prescribe products containing buprenorphine. Pharmacists are required to verify the DEA waiver status of prescribers of buprenorphine. The local standard of practice for Massachusetts insurers is to rely on the pharmacist's assertion of valid prescriber status as part of a claim submission for buprenorphine. Effective immediately, MassHealth will no longer require prescribers to routinely submit a copy of their current DEA-X certification (as had been required by [Pharmacy Facts # 21](#)). This policy change does not affect any other requirements for buprenorphine prescriptions. MassHealth will continue to review prescriptions claims for buprenorphine, including the DEA status of prescribers, as part of MassHealth's ongoing fraud, waste, and abuse monitoring processes.