DEA Permits Transfer of All CS Prescriptions

(But the Rx has to stay fully electronic)

TRANSFER OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE RX FOR INITIAL FILLING

The DEA amended 21 CFR 1306.08 to explicitly state that an electronic prescription for a controlled substance in schedule II–V may be transferred between pharmacies for initial filling upon request from the patient

TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

The prescription must remain in *electronic form*

Transfer of a controlled substance prescription may occur on a one-time basis only

Transfer must be communicated directly between two licensed pharmacists

The legally required contents of the prescription must be unaltered during the transmission

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DOCUMENTATION

Both the transferring and receiving pharmacist must record the following:

- That prescription was transferred
- Name, address, and DEA number of the pharmacy to/from which the prescription was transferred
- Names of the pharmacists receiving and transferring the prescription
- · Date of the transfer

Prescription processing software may capture information from the electronic prescription and automatically populate corresponding data fields to document the transfer

Maintain documentation of transfer for 2 years

Notes: Information applies only to initial fills. DEA has not changed 21 CFR 1306.25, which permits the transfer of paper, oral, or electronic prescriptions in Schedules III, IV, and V for refill dispensing. This is not legal advice. Refer to state and federal law for details.



