



EqualityCare News

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Revised

ATTENTION EQUALITYCARE PROVIDERS

Pharmacy
Bulletin
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ATTENTION WYOMING EQUALITYCARE PHARMACY PROVIDERS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

On May 25, 2007 Section 7002(b) of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007 was signed into law. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released guidance providing baseline requirements to States to define and implement tamper resistant prescription pads as required by this law on August 17, 2007. On September 29, 2007 these requirements were delayed by President Bush until April 1, 2008.

The above law requires that ALL written, non-electronic prescriptions for EqualityCare outpatient drugs must be executed on tamper resistant pads in order for them to be reimbursable by the federal government. In order to meet the standards set forth in the law and to decrease prescription tampering to the greatest extent possible at this time, EqualityCare has instituted the following requirements.

In addition to all current Wyoming Board of Pharmacy requirements for Tamper Resistant Prescription forms; all prescriptions paid for by EqualityCare must meet the following requirement to help insure against tampering:

Written prescriptions:

- As of April , 2008 must contain one, and as of October 1, 2008, must contain all three of the following characteristics:
 1. One of more of the industry-recognized features designed to prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form. In order to meet this requirement all written prescriptions must contain:
 - ◆ Some type of “void” or illegal pantograph that appears if the prescription is copied.



- ◆ May also contain any of the features listed within category one or that meets the standards set forth in this category.
2. One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information written on the prescription by the prescriber.

THIS REQUIREMENT APPLIES ONLY TO PRESCRIPTIONS WRITTEN FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES!

In order to meet this requirement all written prescriptions must contain:

- ◆ Quantity check-off boxes **PLUS** numeric form of quantity values **OR** alpha and numeric forms of quantity value
 - ◆ Refill Indicator (circle or check number of refills or “NR”) **PLUS** numeric form of refill values **OR** alpha **AND** numeric forms of refill values
 - ◆ May also contain any of the features listed within category two or that meets the standards set forth in this category.
3. One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms. In order to meet this requirement all written prescriptions must contain:
 - ◆ Security features and descriptions listed on the FRONT of the prescription blank.
 - ◆ May also contain any of the features listed within category three or that meets the standards set forth in this category.

Computer Printed Prescriptions:

- As of April 1, 2008 must contain one, and as of October 1, 2008, must contain all three of the following characteristics:
 1. One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form. In order to meet this requirement all prescriber’s computer generated prescriptions must contain:
 - ◆ Same as above for this category.
 2. One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information printed on the prescription by the prescriber. In order to meet this requirement all prescriber’s computer generated prescriptions must contain:
 - ◆ Same as above for this category
 3. One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms. In order to meet this requirement all prescriber’s computer generated prescriptions must contain:

3. One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms. In order to meet this requirement all prescriber's computer generated prescriptions must contain:
 - ◆ Security features and descriptions listed on the FRONT or BACK of the prescription blank.
 - ◆ May also contain any of the features listed within category three or the meets the standards set forth in this category.

Inclusion of other industry recognized features on a prescription are acceptable if desired, however, the above features will be mandatory for all prescriptions paid for by EqualityCare as of the dates referenced above.

The tamper-resistant requirement does not apply when a prescription is communicated by the prescriber to the pharmacy electronically, verbally, or by fax; when a managed care entity pays for the prescriptions; or in most situations when drugs are provided in designated institutional and clinical settings. The guidance also allows emergency fills with a non-compliant written prescription as long as the prescriber provides a verbal, faxed, electronic, or compliant written prescription within 72 hours.



The Board's website, under "Items of Interest from the Board" has a section on security paper and a listing of approved vendors. Please contact vendors directly for information on security features of their products.

Audits of pharmacies will be performed in the future by the Wyoming Department of Health, Program Integrity Unit to ensure that the above requirement is being followed. If you have any questions about these audits or this regulation, please contact the Wyoming Department of Health, Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS) at (800) 438-5785 or visit the OPS website at the following address:

www.health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/pharmacy



Wyoming Department of Health
Public Health Insurance Program



Pharmacy
Group
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Important Changes! Please read!



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