



Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

5615 Corporate Blvd., Suite 8-E, Baton Rouge, LA 70808-2537

Telephone (225) 925-6496 ~ Facsimile (225) 925-6499

www.labp.com email: labp@labp.com

BULLETIN No. 05-02

To: Pharmacies
From: Malcolm Broussard
Date: January 31, 2005
Re: Prescriptive Authority for Physician Assistants and Medical Psychologists

- *Prescriptive Authority for Physician Assistants (PA)*

The Board of Medical Examiners has published a Final Rule that became effective January 20, 2005. That rule provides authority for certain physician assistants to prescribe medications and medical devices to the extent delegated by a supervising physician. With respect to medications, the PA is authorized to apply for and receive a DEA registration in order to prescribe controlled substances in Schedules III, IV, or V – but not Schedule I or II.

Prescription forms from PAs must contain (1) name, address, telephone number, and prescriptive authority registration number of PA, as well as DEA registration number, when applicable, (2) date of issue, (3) name of patient, (4) number of refills, if any, and (5) the same generic interchange instructions already in force for all other prescribers [DAW check box and manual instructions for Medicaid recipients].

The rule prohibits a PA from (1) prescribing controlled substances in connection with the treatment of non-cancer related chronic or intractable pain, obesity, or for himself, spouse, child, or immediate family except in life-threatening emergency, (2) selling or dispensing medications, (3) issuing a prescription for any Schedule I or II controlled substance, or (4) dispensing or delivering any controlled substance sample.

If you wish to verify that a certain PA has authority to write prescriptions, please contact the Board of Medical Examiners at (504) 568-6820 or via their website at www.lsbme.louisiana.gov.

- *Prescriptive Authority for Medical Psychologists (MP)*

The Board of Examiners of Psychologists has published a Final Rule that became effective January 20, 2005. That rule provides authority to certain psychologists to prescribe certain medications for certain medical diagnoses. With respect to medications, the MP is authorized to apply for and receive a DEA registration in order to prescribe controlled substances, with the exception of narcotics (defined as natural and synthetic opioid analgesics and their derivatives used to relieve pain).

Psychologists completing additional training and examination in psychopharmacology are designated medical psychologists (MP). Prescriptive authority is restricted to MPs who possess a Certificate of Prescriptive Authority from their Board. Prescription forms from MPs must contain a signature block with the abbreviation M.P. following the designation of the doctoral degree.

MPs shall prescribe only medications recognized and customarily used for the management of mental and emotional disorders. They may prescribe medications for mental and emotional disorders that arise secondary to a primary physical illness, as long as the primary physical illness is managed by a primary care physician.

The MP may distribute medication samples, but they shall not delegate the prescribing of drugs to any other person.

If you wish to verify that a certain MP has authority to write prescriptions, please contact the Board of Examiners of Psychologists at (225) 763-3935 or via their website at www.lsbep.org.

