



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. 05-03

To: Pharmacies
From: Malcolm Broussard
Date: March 4, 2005
Re: Electronic Transmission of Prescriptions

As prescribers attempt to connect to dispensers, the optimum scenario arises when the prescriber is able to connect directly – with no intermediate stops – to the computer in the pharmacy. More likely than not, however, the prescription will need to be transmitted through a network of one or more companies. Companies like *SureScripts*, *ProxyMed*, *WebMD*, and *SafeMed* that are engaged in the electronic transmission of prescriptions are classified by the Board as “routing companies.” These entities are prohibited from accessing or altering any information that travels through their system, and they may store that prescription information only for transmission receipt audit purposes. To do anything else with that information would be a violation of the Board’s confidentiality regulation in Section 1129.

So how does the pharmacist verify the authenticity and legitimacy of an electronic prescription?

- On the receipt of the first such prescription from a particular prescriber, it would be prudent to contact the prescriber to verify that method of prescription transmission.
- The pharmacist should also be cognizant of the routing company. To assist you in that effort, we have placed a roster of routing companies on the Board’s website [Pharmacies → E-prescribing]. While the Board is not in the business of approval of routing companies, the roster will indicate those companies who have submitted appropriate and relevant materials and documented their compliance with the Board’s regulations and policies concerning the electronic transmission of prescriptions.