

Louisiana Administrative Code

Title 46 – Professional and Occupational Standards

Part LIII: Pharmacists

Chapter 25. Prescriptions, Drugs, and Devices

§2511. Prescriptions

- A. Definitions. As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section:
- Electronic Prescription* – a prescription transmitted in electronic form.
- Practice Affiliation* – a practice relationship, collaboration, or practice under the supervision of a physician licensed to practice medicine.
- Prescription or Prescription Drug Order* – an order from a practitioner authorized by law to prescribe for a drug or device that is patient specific and is communicated by any means to a pharmacist in a permitted pharmacy, and is to be preserved on file as required by law or regulation.
- B. Requirements. A prescription shall contain the following data elements:
1. Prescriber's name, licensure designation, address, telephone number, and if for a controlled substance, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration number;
 2. Patient's name, and if for a controlled substance, address;
 3. Date prescription issued by the prescriber;
 4. Name of drug or device, and if applicable, strength, and quantity to be dispensed;
 5. Directions for use;
 6. Signature of prescriber; and
 7. Refill instructions, if any. In the absence of refill instructions on the original prescription, the prescription shall not be refilled.
- C. Written Prescriptions. A written prescription shall conform to the following format:
1. The prescription form shall be of a size not less than 4 inches by 5 inches, and shall bear a single printed signature line.
 2. The prescription form shall clearly indicate the authorized prescriber's name, licensure designation, address, telephone number, and, if for a controlled substance, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration number. In the event that multiple practitioners are identified on the prescription form, the authorizing prescriber's specific identity shall be clear and unambiguous. This identification may be indicated by any means, including but not limited to, a marked check box next to, or circling, the authorizing prescriber's printed name.
 3. No prescription form shall contain more than four prescription drug orders. Each prescription drug order on the form shall provide the following:
 - a. check box labeled "Dispense as Written", or "DAW", or both; and
 - b. the number of refills, if any.
 4. The prescription shall be written with ink or indelible pencil, typewriter, or printed on a computer printer and shall be manually signed by the practitioner on the date issued and in the same manner as he would sign a check or legal document (e.g., J. H. Smith or John H. Smith). Examples of invalid signatures include rubber stamps, signatures of anyone other than the prescriber, and computer generated signatures.
 5. Facsimile Prescription
 - a. The receiving facsimile machine of a prescription transmitted by facsimile shall be located within the pharmacy department.
 - b. The prescription transmitted by facsimile shall be on a non-fading legible medium.
 - c. All requirements applicable to written prescriptions in this Subsection shall apply to facsimile prescriptions, except Subparagraph C.7.c.

- 53 d. The provisions of this Section notwithstanding, a prescription for a medication not
- 54 listed as a controlled substance which is received in a pharmacy by facsimile and
- 55 which bears an electronic signature of the prescriber shall be construed as a
- 56 validly-formatted prescription; however, this temporary allowance shall expire at
- 57 midnight on December 31, 2016.
- 58 6. Forms used by pharmacists to record telephoned or transferred prescriptions are exempt from
- 59 the format requirements listed above.
- 60 D. Oral Prescriptions.
- 61 1. Upon the receipt of an oral prescription from an authorized prescriber, the pharmacist or
- 62 pharmacy intern or pharmacy technician shall reduce the order to a written form prior to
- 63 dispensing the medication. As an alternative to recording such prescriptions on paper forms,
- 64 a pharmacist may enter the prescription information directly into the pharmacy's dispensing
- 65 information system. In the event a pharmacy intern or pharmacy technician transcribes such a
- 66 prescription, the supervising pharmacist shall initial or countersign the prescription form prior
- 67 to processing the prescription.
- 68 E. Electronic Prescriptions.
- 69 1. The prescription shall clearly indicate the authorized prescriber's name, licensure designation,
- 70 address, telephone number, and if for a controlled substance, the DEA registration number.
- 71 F. Exclusion. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to medical orders written for patients in
- 72 facilities licensed by the Department of Health or its successor.
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74 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1182.

75 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708
76 (October 1988), amended LR 29:2102 (October 2003), effective January 1, 2004, amended LR 41:98 (January
77 2015), amended LR 41:2147 (October 2015), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Pharmacy, LR
78 43:2162 (November 2017).
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