2015 Annual Convention

Date: Saturday, October 10, 2015
Time: 11:45 am – 12:15 pm
Location: Gaylord National Harbor Resort and Convention Center, Chesapeake 7/8/9

Title: Update on e-Prescribing for Non-Controlled and Controlled Substances (EPCS)
ACPE # 207-000-15-108-L04-P · 0.05 CEUs
ACPE # 207-000-15-108-L04-T

Activity Type: Knowledge-based
Speaker: Ken Whittemore, Jr., Senior VP, Professional & Regulatory Affairs, Surescripts, LLC

Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Learning Objectives:
Upon completion of this activity, participants will be able to:
1. Summarize current regulations affecting e-prescribing for non-controlled substances and for controlled substances.
2. Discuss strategies that independent pharmacists can use to encourage local prescribers to adopt EPCS.

Disclosures:
Ken Whittemore is the Senior VP of Professional & Regulatory Affairs with Surescripts, LLC. The conflict of interest was resolved by peer review of the slide content.

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Learning Objectives

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**About Controlled Substance Prescriptions**

- An important therapeutic option for many patients
- 12% of total prescriptions are controlled substances
- Potential exists for addiction and abuse
- States have varying regulatory requirements

**Challenges with Paper Rx for Controlled Substances**
- Fraudulent prescription pad forgery is a concern
- Many states require special prescription pads and record keeping
- Dual work is required when paper Rx pads are used for controlled substances in practices that e-prescribe

**Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances (EPCS)**

- One efficient workflow for all prescriptions
  - Reduced fraud and abuse
  - Secure electronic records
  - Improved safety and patient care

**Annualized Cost Savings Potential of $700 Million**
- Reduced pharmacy/prescriber phone callbacks
- Reduced need to store paper prescriptions

_Economic Impact Analysis of the Interim Final Electronic Prescription Rule_  
DEA, U.S. Department of Justice, March 2010

**Network Enables Pharmacy and Prescriber Software Applications for EPCS**

- Provides standards for EPCS implementation
- Certifies software applications for secure EPCS transactions
- Connects pharmacy and prescriber software through a trusted national health information network

Prior to certification, pharmacy system and physician EHR software companies must take additional security and technology steps to comply with the Drug Enforcement Administration’s Interim Final Rule (IFR) and state board of pharmacy regulations.
EPCS Security

- Only certified and audited application vendors and pharmacies may communicate EPCS transactions
  - Participants must have completed certification to the network
  - Participants must have a third-party EPCS audit documented
- Network checks that prescriber and pharmacy software have certified, audit approved EPCS service enabled for transactions

EPCS Readiness Steps for Pharmacies

1. Upgrade their software systems
   - Ensure DEA and NCPDP SCRIPT adherence for EPCS
2. Achieve network certification
3. Undergo third-party audit to ensure compliance
   - Pharmacy software applications must meet DEA requirements for recording, reporting and storing EPCS
4. Make the audit results available to network
   - Computer and submit network EPCS Audit Attestation Form
   ✓ Ready to GO LIVE with EPCS

EPCS Readiness Steps for Prescriber Software

1. Update their software application
   - Ensure DEA and NCPDP SCRIPT adherence for EPCS
2. Achieve network EPCS certification
3. Undergo third-party audit to ensure compliance
   - Proper logging and audit trails are functional
   - Security is operational
4. Make the audit results available to network
   - Computer and submit network EPCS Audit Attestation Form
   ✓ Ready to GO LIVE with EPCS
EPCS Readiness Steps for Prescribers

Before prescribers can “go live” with EPCS, they must:

1. Ensure their EHR is upgraded, certified, audited and enabled for EPCS
2. Work with their software vendor to achieve required ID proofing
3. Secure their Two-Factor Authentication (TFA) credential
4. Use TFA to set system access controls
   ✓ Ready to GO LIVE with EPCS

Many Doctors and Pharmacists are Still Not Aware
EPCS is Legal

I wish I could electronically prescribe controlled substances.

I’m not sure if we are able to accept EPCS.

All 50 states plus the District of Columbia have approved EPCS for all schedules
National EPCS Transaction Volume

Nationwide Pharmacy EPCS Adoption (~64%)

Nationwide Prescriber EPCS Adoption (~4%)
EPCS Adoption Barriers

- False Knowledge
- Competing Workload Priorities
- Changing regulatory requirements
- Education Gaps
- Cost Concerns
- Fear of non-compliance/legality
- Limited Time
- 3rd Party Audits for Software

Pharmacist & Provider Software Updates

Prescribers have more required setup steps than pharmacies.

getEPCS.com Offers Education and Guidance Designed for You to Share

- Embed video to play on your website
- Post on LinkedIn
- Email action steps

getEPCS.com Walks Prescribers and/or Their Staff Through the Four Key Areas of Getting Started That Are Relevant to Them

- EHR Software Update
- ID Proofing
- Two-Factor Authentication
- Setting Software Access
EHR Software Update: Prescribers/Staff Can Look Up the EPCS Status of Their EHR Software

ID Proofing

- ID proofing can be done in-person or online, through companies that work with your EHR
- For online ID proofing, you may need to answer a security question and email scanned copies of government-issued documents along with your photo and your medical license
- Sometimes an electric bill or bank statement is also needed to confirm your address

Two-Factor Authentication

- This double-level process ensures that only you can sign and send the controlled substance prescription to the pharmacy
- There are various options: mobile phones, smart cards, fob tokens, USB thumb drives, and biometrics like fingerprint scanners
- Once you’re set up, two-factor authentication requires hardly any extra effort
Setting Software Access

• For this final step, you’ll need two separate people to set secure access controls for your EHR e-prescribing software.

• One person needs to be a DEA registrant who has been ID-proofed and has their two-factor authentication method in place—this could be you.

• The other is a person who can confirm your identity, such as an office manager or another member of your practice—but they do not need to be an employee of your practice.

Click More Details and See Who is Getting EPCS Today

Questions?

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