

TIME SENSITIVE
POTENTIAL ACTION REQUIRED: ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING
Effective 1/1/2019

November 28, 2018

Dear Care1st and ONECare Providers and Staff:

As part of the 2018 Opioid Epidemic Act passed by the Arizona legislature, Arizona is mandating that Schedule II **opioid** controlled substances should be dispensed only via an electronic prescription. **Federal facilities (Indian Health, Department of Veteran Affairs and Department of Defense) are currently exempt from this requirement.

This legislation impacts both providers and pharmacies. Providers must be able to send electronic prescriptions through the EPCS (electronic prescribing of controlled substances) certified system and pharmacies but be able to receive these prescriptions. EPCS-certification meets strict DEA requirements for credentialing, software certification and dual factor authentication. Please contact your EHR vendor for further assistance regarding EPCS-certification and requirements. Pharmacies are required to accept electronic prescriptions in 2019.

Health Current can help with e-prescribing questions and can offer assist with any barriers that you may be experiencing. They can be contacted at erx@healthcurrent.org or (602)688-7200.

Effective January 1, 2019, an electronic prescription to a pharmacy for a schedule II opioid drug is required in **Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Yavapai, Mohave and Yuma counties**.

Effective July 1, 2019 this same requirement becomes effective in **Greenlee, La Paz, Graham, Santa Cruz, Gila, Apache, Navajo, Cochise and Coconino counties**.

If your practice is not able to meet the EPCS standard by the above dates, your practice is required to submit a waiver to the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy in order to prescribe CII opioids. **The deadline for the waiver to be submitted is December 15, 2018 for counties with a January 1, 2019 start date.**

The application for the waiver & detailed FAQ-is located here

<https://pharmacy.az.gov>

Thank you!

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