

**Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Controlled Substances Regulations  
Comparison to State Regulations  
Impacted by Electronic Prescribing**

**Appendix A**

<i><b>DEA Regulations for Controlled Substances</b></i>	<i><b>Do State Regulations Differ from DEA Regulations?</b></i>	<i><b>Impacted by Electronic Transmission? Different from Paper Requirements?</b></i>
<b>Prescription Records (Storage – not transmission)</b>		
Controlled substance prescriptions must be filed in one of three ways: CII, CIII-V, Non controlled		No
Must be readily retrievable for DEA inspection		No
Maintain prescriptions for 2 years	Yes, states require prescriptions to be kept anywhere from 2 – 7 years, depending on the state	No
<b>Prescription Requirements</b>		
Prescription must be dated and signed on the date when issued		No
Prescription must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Patient’s full name and address</li> <li>o Prescribers name, address, and registration (DEA) number</li> <li>o Drug name, strength, dosage form, quantity prescribed, directions for use, and number of refills</li> </ul>		No
Where an oral prescription is not permitted (CII), a prescription must be written in ink or indelible pencil or typewritten and must be manually signed by the practitioner.	No - defer to DEA	<b>Yes</b>
Practitioner is responsible for making sure the prescription conforms in all essential respects to the law and regulations.		No
An individual (i.e. secretary or nurse) may be designated by the practitioner to prepare prescriptions for his/her signature.		No

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<b>Schedule II Substances</b>		
Requires written prescription which must be signed by practitioner	No – defer to DEA	<b>Yes</b>
No time limit when a schedule II must be filled after being signed by prescriber		No
No quantity limits on any prescriptions		No
Oral order only permitted in an emergency situation Called in – follow up Rx within 7 days		No
No refills allowed		No
<b>Schedule III - V Substances</b>		
May be communicated orally, in writing, or faxed	No – defer to DEA	<b>Yes</b>
May be refilled if authorized on the prescription <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ III – IV – refilled up to five times within 6 months of date of issue</li> <li>○ Documenting refills</li> </ul>		No