

# PharmacyUpdate

New York State Department of Health

Winter 2008

Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement

## New Prescription Requirements Effective February 25, 2008

The Department of Health has previously exempted certain facilities and their affiliated clinics and health services from the requirement to issue prescriptions for non-controlled substances on an official New York State prescription (ONYSRx) form. Under the exemption, staff practitioners may issue prescriptions for non-controlled substances on the facility's own prescription form until a serialized authentication label – also known as a facility label – is issued by the Department.

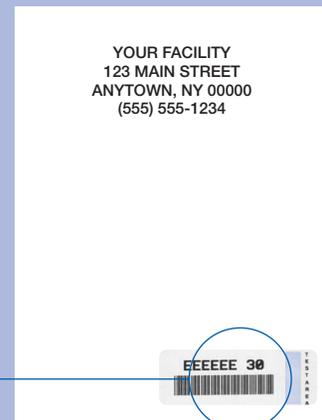
Please be informed that facility labels are now available. Each exempted facility is required to obtain and begin affixing the labels to all written prescriptions for non-controlled substances by no later than February 25, 2008. All written prescriptions for controlled substances must continue to be prescribed on an official New York State prescription form.

### Beginning February 25, 2008, pharmacists dispensing prescriptions from exempted facilities and their affiliated clinics or health services must ensure that:

- All prescriptions for controlled substances must be issued **only** on an official New York State prescription.
- All prescriptions for non-controlled substances must be issued **either** on an official New York State prescription or on the facility's own prescription form with an affixed facility label.

### THE FACILITY LABELS:

- Measure approximately 2"x 3/4" and contain a light blue pharmacist test area on the right side of the label.
- Are individually serialized in the same manner as official prescriptions.
- Contain slight perforations along all sides which prevent the label from being easily removed once it has been placed on the prescription.
- May be placed anywhere on the prescription as long as they do not obscure any other required prescription information.



**Important Note:** Official New York State prescriptions and prescriptions from exempted facilities that contain a facility label will also satisfy the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requirement that written prescriptions for Medicaid patients be tamper-resistant beginning April 1, 2008.

A complete list of exempted facilities and their affiliated clinics and health services may be viewed on-line at: [http://www.health.state.ny.us/professionals/narcotic/facilities/exempted\\_list.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/professionals/narcotic/facilities/exempted_list.htm)

Pharmacists with questions regarding the facility label may call the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement toll free at **866-811-7957** and choose option #2 to speak to a Pharmacy Consultant.

Pharmacists with questions about the CMS tamper-resistant requirements for Medicaid prescriptions should contact Medicaid's Bureau of Pharmacy Policy and Operations at **518-486-3209**.



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT

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[www.nyhealth.gov/professionals/narcotic](http://www.nyhealth.gov/professionals/narcotic)