

ability to reduce fraudulent and inappropriate controlled substance prescribing.² With added benefits and confidence, several other states have reassessed their initial reluctance. As of August 2019, a total of 27 states have passed laws that require controlled substances be e-prescribed, with planned implementation dates ranging from 2020 – 2023.⁵ Interestingly though, approximately half of these states allow for program waivers and include no penalties for non-compliance.

The recent progress is very encouraging, but it is worth noting that as of August 2019, only one additional state has legislation pending consideration.⁵ More work is needed to maintain the momentum, and ensure all states require controlled substance e-prescribing. The APhA-APPM encourages APhA members to modernize their stance on e-prescribing by adding their explicit support of a requirement for controlled substances.

1. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. E-Prescribing. Available at: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/E-Health/Eprescribing/index.html>. Accessed August 20, 2019
2. Gawande, AA. It's Time to Adopt Electronic Prescriptions for Opioids. *Annals of Surgery* 2017; 265(4):693-694.
3. U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services. Surgeon General Priority: Opioids and Addiction. Available at: <https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/opioids-and-addiction/index.html>. Accessed August 21, 2019.
4. U.S. Dept of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency. A Pharmacist's Guide to Prescription Fraud. (2000; Washington, DC). Available at: <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubs/brochures/pharmguide.htm>. Accessed July 28, 2019.
5. MD Toolbox. E-Prescribing Mandate State Laws. Available at: <https://mdtoolbox.com/eprescribe-map.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>. Accessed August 21, 2019.

Current APhA Policy & Bylaws:

2010 E-prescribing Standardization

1. APhA supports the standardization of user interfaces to improve quality and reduce errors unique to e-prescribing.
2. APhA supports reporting mechanisms and research efforts to evaluate the effectiveness, safety, and quality of e-prescribing systems, computerized prescriber order entry (CPOE) systems, and the e-prescriptions that they produce, in order to improve health information technology systems and, ultimately, patient care.
3. APhA supports the development of financial incentives for pharmacists and prescribers to provide high quality e-prescribing activities.
4. APhA supports the inclusion of pharmacists in quality improvement and meaningful use activities related to the use of e-prescribing and other health information technology that would positively impact patient health outcomes.

(JAPhA NS40(4):471 July/August 2010)(Reviewed 2012)(Reviewed 2014) (Reviewed 2015)

****Phone numbers will only be used by the New Business Review Committee in case there are questions for the delegate who submitted the New Business Item Content.**

New Business Items are due to the Speaker of the House by **February 19, 2020** (30 days prior to the start of the first House session). Consideration of urgent items can be presented with a suspension of the House Rules at the session where New Business will be acted upon. Please submit New Business Items to the Speaker of the House via email at hod@aphanet.org.