



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Health

Helping People Lead Healthy Lives In Healthy Communities

Proposed Amendment of 105 CMR 721.000

Standards for Prescription Format and Security in Massachusetts

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- 105 CMR 721.000 sets forth the standards for format and security in the Commonwealth that all prescriptions issued by practitioners or reduced to writing by pharmacists must meet in order to comply with M.G.L. c. 112, § 12D and M.G.L. c. 94C.
- As part of regulatory review, the Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality (BHCSQ) proposes amending 105 CMR 721, *Standard for Prescription Format and Security*, having determined that it will:
 - Reduce confusion for prescribers and dispensers of controlled substances, who are the regulated parties;
 - Increase efficiency and transparency; and
 - Eliminate redundancy.



105 CMR 721.060

- 105 CMR 721.060 sets forth emergency situations in which controlled substances in Schedule II may be dispensed upon oral prescription.
- This section is being moved from 105 CMR 701.003, *Regulations Adopted Jointly by the Department of Public Health and the Board of Registration in Pharmacy*.
- This section is more appropriately located within the regulation that sets out the standards for prescription format.



Next Steps

- Staff intends to conduct the public comment hearing and return to the PHC to report on testimony and any recommended changes to this proposal.
- Following final action by the PHC, the Department will be able to file the final rescission with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.



Contact Information

- Thank you for the opportunity to present this information today.
- For more information on *Prescription Format and Security*, please find the full current regulation here:

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/regs/105cmr721.pdf>

Please direct any questions to:

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