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Arizona State Office of Rural Health

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Today’s presentation:

Congratulations! You’ve met the 2020 EPCS Deadline – NOW, Understand the Regulations and Mandates!

Connie K. Ihde, Director Programs
Health Current
EPCS Click for Control Campaign - Shared Commitment

This presentation is provided through a shared commitment between Health Current, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Arizona Board of Pharmacy to manage and coordinate the statewide EPCS Click for Control Education Campaign.
Overview

• EPCS Timeline
• New Regulations & Mandates
• Arizona vs. National Landscape
• CSPMP
• Click for Control Campaign Resources
• Benefits of EPCS
Overview

• SB1001, The 2019 Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act – HB 2075: What it Amended, Updated, Removed and Extended

• Physician Assistant, Medical Practitioner and Pharmacist Responsibilities
EPCS New Regulations & Mandates
EPCS Regulations & Mandates Timeline

**EPCS** is the Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances

- Regulations issued by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in 2010 permit pharmacies to receive, dispense and archive electronic prescriptions for controlled substances

- In April 2012, Arizona’s governor signed into law legislation making EPCS legal in Arizona

- SB 1001, The 2018 Az Opioid Epidemic Act mandated EPCS for all Schedule II opioids

- HB 2075, Extended deadline for Schedule II opioids to January 1, 2020 for all Arizona Prescribers
HB 2075 Regulations & Mandates

• HB 2075 – Extended EPCS Deadline for Schedule II opioid to January 1, 2020 for all Arizona Prescribers
  • Removed cumbersome waiver process
  • Specified Schedule II controlled substances requirements for compounding (for direct administration), for long-term care facility residents, for hospice care patients
  • Clarified special circumstance and procedure for prescribing/dispensing during electronic system non-operational/unavailable situations
  • Confirmed Veterinarians are not required to EPCS until State Veterinary Medical Examining Board determines EPCS software is “widely” available

More information on HB 2075 is available here. Information on Health Current’s 2020 Click for Control campaign is available here.
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

Prescribers may write and fax a schedule II-controlled substance Rx that is an opioid if:

- Rx is written in AZ to be filled outside of Arizona
- Rx is for medication that requires compounding of two or more ingredients
- Rx is for medication that is not in the e-prescribing database
- Rx for medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for a substance use disorder.

More information on HB 2075 is available here. Information on Health Current’s 2020 Click for Control campaign is available here.
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

Prescribers may write and fax a schedule II-controlled substance Rx that is an opioid if:

- Rx will be dispensed at:
  - A Veteran’s Administration facility
  - Health facility on a military base
  - IHS hospital or service facility
  - Tribal owned clinic

More information on HB 2075 is available here. Information on Health Current’s 2020 Click for Control campaign is available here.
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

**Prescribers** may **write or fax** original Rx schedule II-controlled substance that is an opioid if the Rx is any of the following:

- To be compounded for direct administration to a patient by:
  - Parenteral, intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous or intraspinal infusion
- For a resident of a long-term care facility
- For a patient who is enrolled in a hospice program licensed by the state of Arizona
  - Must note on prescription patient is hospice patient

More information on HB 2075 is available [here](#). Information on Health Current’s 2020 *Click for Control* campaign is available [here](#).
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

Prescribers may write and fax a schedule II-controlled substance Rx that is an opioid if:

- EPCS system or pharmacy management system is not operational or available in a timely manner
  - Indicate on written eRx order EPCS system or pharmacy management system is not operational or available
  - Maintain a record, (period-of-time determined by board), of when EPCS system or pharmacy management system was not operational or available in timely manner

More information on HB 2075 is available here. Information on Health Current’s 2020 Click for Control campaign is available here.
**HB 2075 Mandate Updates**

**Additional Mandates**

- Emergency quantities of schedule II-controlled substances may be dispensed on oral prescription orders of a medical practitioner.
  - Must be immediately reduced to writing by the pharmacist
  - Within seven days, medical practitioner must write emergency oral prescription, manually sign for the emergency quantity prescribed and deliver to dispensing pharmacist
  - Or an electronic prescription order may be transmitted to the dispensing pharmacist.

- Prescription orders for schedule II-controlled substances **cannot be refilled**

More information on HB 2075 is available [here](#). Information on Health Current’s 2020 *Click for Control* campaign is available [here](#).
**HB 2075 Mandate Updates**

**Additional Mandates**

- Prescription orders for schedule II-controlled substances shall not be dispensed more than ninety days *after* the date on which the prescription order was issued.

- Pharmacy may *sell/dispense* schedule II-controlled substances prescribed by medical practitioner located in other AZ county or in another state.
  - Prescription must be issued according/in compliance with laws of prescribing medical practitioner’s state and federal law.

More information on HB 2075 is available [here](#). Information on Health Current’s 2020 *Click for Control* campaign is available [here](#).
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

Board Certified Physician Assistant Limits and Requirements

• Physician Assistant may NOT prescribe without delegation by supervising physician, board approval and DEA registration.

• Prescription privileges – WITH delegation:
  – 30-day Rx for schedule II, III, IV and V controlled substances that are opioids or Benzodiazepine
  – 90-day Rx for schedule II, III, IV and V controlled substances
  – Prescription-only medication

More information on HB 2075 is available [here](#). Information on Health Current’s 2020 [Click for Control](#) campaign is available [here](#).
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

Board Certified Physician Assistant Limits and Requirements

• **CANNOT** prescribe medication intended to perform or induce an abortion

• **CANNOT** prescribe controlled substance more than 5 times in a six-month period for each patient

• **CANNOT** prescribe controlled substances that are opioids or Benzodiazepine that are refillable without written consent of supervision physician

• **CANNOT** prescribe prescription-only drugs refillable for a period exceeding one year

More information on HB 2075 is available [here](#). Information on Health Current’s 2020 *Click for Control* campaign is available [here](#).
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

Board Certified Physician Assistant Limits and Requirements

- Physician assistant must:
  - Complete 45 hours in pharmacology or clinical management of drug therapy within past 3 years
  - Or be certified by a national commission on certification of physician assistants
  - Issue prescription orders for controlled substances under their own DEA registration number.

More information on HB 2075 is available here. Information on Health Current’s 2020 Click for Control campaign is available here.
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

- **Pharmacists** may *dispense* handwritten schedule II-controlled substances Rx (including opioids) for the following cases:
  - When EPCS system is unavailable
    - Pharmacists must maintain record of system failure
  - Rx indicates the medical practitioner who issued the Rx provided care for the patient in:
    - Veteran’s Administration Facility
    - Health facility on a military base
    - IHS hospital or service facility
    - Tribal owned Clinic

More information on HB 2075 is available [here](#). Information on Health Current’s 2020 *Click for Control* campaign is available [here](#).
HB 2075 Mandate Updates

• Veterinarians and MAT Prescriptions are EPCS Exempt:
  
  • Veterinarians are exempt from EPCS until the Arizona State Veterinary Examining Board determines that EPCS software is widely available for veterinarians and notifies the AZ Board of Pharmacy of that determination
  
  • A prescription order for a schedule II-controlled substance that is an opioid that is issued for medication-assisted treatment (MAT) does not need to be electronically sent. (MAT exempt)

More information on HB 2075 is available [here](#). Information on Health Current’s 2020 Click for Control campaign is available [here](#).
Arizona vs. National Landscape
Where is Arizona Today?
Surescripts 2018 National Progress Report

Arizona jumped from 22\textsuperscript{nd} to 11\textsuperscript{th} place in 2018
the largest rise in the country!
# How Does Arizona Compare for EPCS?

## National vs Arizona for EPCS (December 2019 data)

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<th>National</th>
<th>Arizona</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pharmacies EPCS Enabled</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prescribers EPCS Enabled</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>67%</td>
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Virtually ALL Arizona Pharmacies Enabled

Arizona Prescribers: 19% AHEAD of national numbers
As of October 2019:
Arizona ranked 4th in the Nation for EPCS Prescriber Readiness
U.S. Reaches Major Milestone:

*Half* of All States Require Electronic Prescribing for Opioid, Controlled substances or all Rx

Source: Surescripts July 1, 2019 Press Release
Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP)
Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP)

What is a CSPMP?
CSPMPs are state run databases that collect patient-specific prescription information at the time of dispensing from a pharmacy.

What is the purpose of a CSPMP?
Improve clinical decision-making, reduce doctor shopping, decrease inappropriate prescribing, reduce diversion of controlled substances, and assist in other efforts to curb the prescription drug abuse epidemic.

Beginning October 16, 2017, Arizona prescribers are **required** to access information from the Arizona CSPMP before a prescription for an opioid analgesic or benzodiazepine-controlled substance is generated.
Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP)

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) § 36-2606 (link is external) requires each medical practitioner licensed under Title 32, who possesses a DEA license to:

- Review preceding 12 months of a patient’s CSPMP record before prescribing an opioid analgesic or benzodiazepine-controlled substance listed in schedule II, III or IV.

- Exceptions to reviewing a patient record are described in A.R.S. § 36-2606 (link is external). Medical residents may register using the hospital DEA number and appropriate suffix. Prescribers must register here (link is external).

For more CSPMP information, registration and training  Click Here  https://pharmacypmp.az.gov/
Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP)

Ways to connect
1. Prescriber must first register with Board of Pharmacy.

2. Three options to comply:
   a) Access via the Board of Pharmacy Website
      - Manual log-in of prescriber, license & patient name; available now
      - https://arizona.pmpaware.net/login
   
   a) Access via an Electronic Health Record (EHR)
      - Providers should check with vendor on availability, timing & costs.
      - https://pharmacypmp.az.gov/integration-interest-form
   
   a) Access via Health Current
      - First need to be HIE participant; then need to be connected to HIE portal.

Additional Information
Please check the Health Current website Info Center for additional CSPMP information under CSPMP Mandate (RX Monitoring):
https://healthcurrent.org/information-center/rx-monitoring-pmp/
Click for Control Campaign
Click for Control Campaign: Resources

• EPCS Resource Development
  – Health Current website – eRx and EPCS webpages, webinar registration [https://healthcurrent.org/information-center/controlled-substances/](https://healthcurrent.org/information-center/controlled-substances/)
  – Fact Sheets (basics to get started, FAQs, etc.)
  – Future/Up-Coming Webinars and Presentations
  – Articles
  – In-person EPCS Presentations (conferences, staff/company meetings, etc.)
  – Slides (to add to any scheduled presentation)

• Additional Support
  – Phone based assistance
  – Email communication
Click for Control Campaign: Fact Sheets & Flyers

Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substance (EPCS)
Click for Control

An Arizona Campaign to Increase the E-Prescribing of Controlled Substances

- The electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS) is a process that helps healthcare practitioners prescribe medications in a digital format.
- EPCS are required to be used for Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substances.
- In addition to enhancing patient safety, EPCS also reduces the risk of medication errors and drug abuse.
- EPCS help healthcare providers maintain patient records and track medication usage.
- EPCS are also required for Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substances.
- EPCS help providers comply with federal regulations.
- EPCS are a part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

EPCS Steps for Prescribers

1. Obtain your EHR or e-prescribing vendor and ask if they are EPCS-certified.
2. If not EPCS-certified, check with your vendor to see if they can provide EPCS.
3. If they can, discuss the costs and benefits with your vendor.

EHR Vendor Cost Sheet

Costs associated with basic e-prescribing:
- Basic e-prescribing is typically included in the cost of an EHR software.
- Costs vary depending on the vendor.
- Annual fees may range from $100 to $2,000 per provider.

Costs associated with EPCS:
- EPCS systems must meet the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) requirements for credentialing, software certification, and dual-factor authentication.
- The cost of EPCS implementation varies depending on the vendor.
- Costs may range from $500 to $5,000 per provider.

For more information, contact your local healthcare provider or visit the Arizona Health Information Technology Network (AZHIT) website.
2020 EPCS Click for Control Campaign: Webinars

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<th>Title</th>
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<td>Coming Soon!</td>
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Sign up to Receive Health Current Newsletters and Alerts for 2020 EPCS Click for Control Webinar Series Schedule and other Arizona Healthcare News at [HealthCurrent.org](http://HealthCurrent.org)
Benefits of EPCS
Benefits of EPCS

• Safer, faster controlled substance prescribing

• Handles every prescription from one place

• Accepted by nearly all Arizona pharmacies

• Comply with AZ State mandates and DEA regulatory requirements

• Promoting Interoperability program Meaningful Use Measures
Closing Remarks

- EPCS provides convenience, accountability and security that paper prescriptions lack.

- Health information technology (HIT), including EPCS, is an important tool in improving patient care and safety.

- Local and national efforts are headed toward the required use of HIT.

- EPCS and CSPMP are important tools in fighting the opioid crisis.

- Health Current is a resource for EPCS and a solution provider for CSPMP access.
EPCS *Click for Control* Campaign Webinar Series

This webinar has been presented to educate and help Arizona prescribers and practices navigate the adoption of EPCS. Attendees are encouraged to review and interpret legislation and mandates based upon their specific situations and needs.
Contact Information

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or call 602-688-7210

For information about joining Health Current contact: recruitment@healthcurrent.org
or call 602-688-7200

Visit the Health Current website at: healthcurrent.org
Additional Information, Resources & References
References

Surescripts Four Key Steps to Get Started with EPCS Video
https://surescripts.com/enhance-prescribing/e-prescribing/e-prescribing-for-controlled-substances/

Surescripts 2018 National Progress Report
References

Arizona House Bill 2369 (HB2369)

National House Bill HR 3528 Every Prescription Conveyed Securely Act
https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3528?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22hr%22%5D%7D&r=1

Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act: Bill text and Policy primer

HB 2075, Extended deadline for Schedule II opioids to January 1, 2020 for all Arizona Prescribers More information on HB 2075 is available here.
Imagine fully informed health.
Questions and Discussion
Please type your questions and comments into the Zoom Webinar Platform Chat box.

Congratulations! You’ve met the 2020 EPCS Deadline – NOW, Understand the Regulations and Mandates!
Thank you!

Your opinion is valuable to us.
Please participate in this brief survey:

https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5bbi64ia1PKMPbL

Find this and our previous webinars at:
http://www.crh.arizona.edu/programs/sorh/webinars

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