

January 21, 2016

Our request is based on the need to protect the safety and well-being of the residents under our care. Our prescribers are not routinely at the facility when prescriptions are issued, especially at night or on weekends. As a result, e-prescribing will introduce a dangerous delay in obtaining prescriptions and medications for our frail and elderly residents. As per New York State Department of Health Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement Article 2A- Section 281 and Title 10 Part 80 Section 80.64 guidelines, the justification for a waiver is:

***Prescriptions issued by a practitioner under circumstances where the practitioner reasonably determines that it would be impractical for the patient to obtain substances prescribed by electronic prescription in a timely manner AND such delay would adversely impact the patient's medical condition. In addition to these circumstances, the quantity of controlled substances cannot exceed a five day supply if the controlled substance were used in accordance with the directions for use.***

Please note that even the smallest delay in the transmission of an order from our Long Term Care facility may result in an unacceptable delay in receiving medications, resulting in potential actual harm and possibly unnecessary hospitalization for our residents.

When considering our waiver request, please note that our professional nursing staff, in cooperation and collaboration with our prescribers, has developed extremely safe and effective systems for medication prescribing and ordering. These systems have been in place for many years without any adverse results. Please be assured that the systems in place will remain in place for the duration of the waiver.

Sincerely,

Administrator