



# DEA Permits Transfer of All CS Prescriptions

(But the Rx has to  
stay fully electronic)

# TRANSFER OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE RX FOR INITIAL FILLING

The DEA amended 21 CFR 1306.08 to explicitly state that an electronic prescription for a controlled substance in schedule II–V may be transferred between pharmacies for initial filling upon request from the patient.

## TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

The prescription must remain in **electronic form**

Transfer of a controlled substance prescription may occur on a one-time basis only

Transfer must be communicated directly between two licensed pharmacists

The legally required contents of the prescription must be unaltered during the transmission

**NIH**  
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HEALing Communities Study  
Kentucky

**Notes:** Information applies only to initial fills. DEA has not changed 21 CFR 1306.25, which permits the transfer of paper, oral, or electronic prescriptions in Schedules III, IV, and V for refill dispensing. This is not legal advice. Refer to state and federal law for details.

## DOCUMENTATION

Both the transferring and receiving pharmacist must record the following:

- That prescription was transferred
- Name, address, and DEA number of the pharmacy to/from which the prescription was transferred
- Names of the pharmacists receiving and transferring the prescription;
- Date of the transfer

Prescription processing software may capture information from the electronic prescription and automatically populate corresponding data fields to document the transfer

Maintain documentation of transfer for 2 years