

## Welcome to E-Prescriptions at Depot Drug

Depot Drug has a long history of mail order prescription service to our members. Railroad employees, retirees, Medicare members and their spouses look to us to be a partner with their physician in getting them the medications they need to maintain health.

We encourage your practice to e-prescribe for Union Pacific Railroad Employees Health Systems (UPREHS) members.

### Prescriptions come to Depot Drug Pharmacies

Depot Drug TM Pharmacies	NCPDP ID
Mail Order (All US Locations)	4602745
Omaha, NE (UP Headquarters Bldg)	2810720
North Platte, NE (retail location)	2810996

**What is e-prescribing?** It is technology that allows your practice to electronically create and send prescriptions to a pharmacy. Many systems allow patient eligibility checks, and patient-specific formularies, patient medication history and drug and allergy interactions. You can even use software to prescribe from your iPhone or Blackberry.

There are great benefits to e-prescribing:

#### **Increased patient safety:**

- E-prescribing eliminates the need to interpret handwriting
- Medication orders are placed in a standard format so there is less room for error
- Prescriptions reach the pharmacy directly from the point of patient care
- July 2006 Institute of medicine reported e-prescribing was significant in reducing medication errors.

#### **Increased productivity:**

- Fewer phone calls between pharmacies and physicians to resolve questions
- Reduces the time physician and pharmacy staff spend entering data
- Synchronizes drug refills with regular patient follow-up appointments
- Prescriptions are easily included in electronic health records.

#### **Better medication management:**

- Prescriptions can be handled without additional delays and shipped faster
- Medications can be matched to the insurance formulary to make sure that patients get the medications you select
- Delays can be reduced with information about non-covered drugs and any prior authorizations needed

**Greater patient compliance and improved health:**

- Patients generally fill more prescriptions of the medications you order
- Encourages appropriate drug use
- Patient out-of-pocket costs can be reduced

**Information is HIPAA compliant:**

- E-prescribing was included in the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003
- Sensitive and federally protected patient information is safely encrypted.

**Eligible providers can get incentive payments and avoid penalties from CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services)**

- Incentive payments on Part B prescriptions are 1.0% in 2012 and 0.5% in 2013
- Penalty for not adopting e-prescribe for Part B charges can be 1.0% in 2012, 1.5% in 2013 and 2.0% in 2014 and beyond.
- Providers should check with software vendors to make sure their submissions meet MIPPA guidelines (Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act.)

**Software for e-prescribing is available from many sources:**

SureScripts	Emdeon	AllScripts
E-Prescription	DrFirst	iScribe
Noteworthy	RelayHealth	MedPlus

We both care for your patients/our members. We encourage you to begin e-prescribing right away. If you need assistance in putting prescriptions through, our IS Department will be happy to help: Just email your concern to [www.edihelp@uphealth.com](mailto:www.edihelp@uphealth.com)

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