

McKesson's commitment to e-prescriptions for controlled substances

Beginning January 1, 2020, McKesson's distribution businesses will no longer sell controlled substances to pharmacies that are unable to accept e-prescriptions for controlled substances.

Electronic prescribing for controlled substances (EPCS) allows healthcare providers to electronically send prescriptions to pharmacies. Expanding e-prescribing will help to prevent opioid abuse by reducing forged prescriptions. It will also enhance patient care by reducing errors and improving medication adherence.

As part of McKesson's commitment to address the opioid epidemic, beginning on January 1, 2020, we will only sell controlled substances to pharmacies that can accept e-prescriptions. Exemptions will be made for Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, and some customers performing in-office dispensing or administration that meet certain McKesson exemption requirements.

We have already exempted customers that are classified in one of these categories and they will not be asked to sign an attestation letter. If a customer is contacted to attest and they believe that they fit into one of the exemption categories listed, they will have the opportunity to indicate this on their attestation document that they submit.

What do I need to do?

Over the next several months, McKesson customers affected by this policy will be contacted by the McKesson team.

EPCS-compliant customers

Customers that McKesson has been able to identify as EPCS capable will be considered compliant and will not need to sign an attestation. They will receive a notification document only.

Customers with an uncertain EPCS compliance status

If McKesson has been unable to determine your current EPCS capabilities, you will need to sign an attestation confirming you are compliant, will be compliant by January 1, 2020, or you meet McKesson's exemption requirements.

If you are not currently set up to accept e-prescriptions for controlled substances, we encourage you to work with your pharmacy system vendor to update your system to support EPCS. If you are not sure if your system is capable, contact your pharmacy system vendor to inquire.



Let's work together to improve patient care!

Additional communications will be sent over the next several weeks. If you have questions about this program, please contact your McKesson account manager.