



Pharmacy Update

Pharmacy Help Desk Phone Numbers 405-522-6205 option 4 or 800-522-0114 option 4
Service Hours: Monday – Friday (8:30a – 7:00p); Saturday (9:00a – 5:00p); Sunday (11:00a – 5:00p)
Email: pharmacy@okhca.org OHCA Website: www.okhca.org

September 23, 2008

Tamper Resistant Prescription Requirements

Approximately one year ago, OHCA informed SoonerCare providers of a new federal law regarding tamper-resistant prescription requirements. According to this federal mandate, all newly written or typed prescriptions for SoonerCare members must include a minimum of three industry-recognized security features. In preparation for this requirement, newly written prescriptions were required to include at least one security feature beginning on April 1, 2008.

Effective October 1, 2008, as required by section 1903(i)(23) of the Social Security Act (42 USC § 1396b(i)(23)), these **prescriptions will be required to exhibit at least one feature from each of the three categories listed below:**

- 1) **Features designed to prevent unauthorized copying** of a completed or blank prescription form;
- 2) **Features designed to prevent erasure or modification** of information written on the prescription by the prescriber;
- 3) **Features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms**

For examples and OHCA recommendations to achieve compliance, please refer to the OHCA website www.okhca.org/providers/rx. OHCA does not maintain an approved vendor list for tamper-resistant prescription pads/products, and is unable to recommend specific vendors.

Please note:

- Tamper-Resistant Requirements do not apply to prescriptions that are called-in, faxed-in, or sent electronically (e-prescriptions).
- Prescriptions that do not comply with tamper-resistant requirements can still be filled as long as the pharmacy calls the prescriber and confirms that the prescription is authentic. Documentation of this call must be retained, and will bring the prescription into compliance with the tamper-resistant requirements, including prescriptions for Schedule-II medications.
- Written orders prepared in institutional settings where a doctor or medical assistant writes the order into a medical record and medical staff gives the order directly to the pharmacy are considered tamper-resistant, as long as the patient never has the opportunity to handle the written order.
- Emergency fills of non-compliant prescriptions are permitted as long as the prescriber provides a verbal, faxed, or written compliant prescription within 72 hours.

We appreciate the services you provide to Oklahomans insured by SoonerCare.