E-Prescriptions

Effective March 27th, New York’s electronic prescribing mandate, I-STOP (Internet System for Tracking Over-Prescribing), requires all prescriptions to be electronically written and transmitted directly to pharmacies in NY State. I-STOP aims to reduce the rising rates of prescription drug abuse in New York.

The law requires nurse practitioners, midwives, dentists, podiatrists, physicians, physician assistants and optometrists in New York State (“prescribers”) to issue prescriptions electronically for all types of medications (controlled substances and non-controlled substances) and for syringes and other medical devices dispensed at a pharmacy in New York with limited exceptions. The law will not require a prescriber to issue a prescription electronically when:

- Electronic prescribing is not available due to temporary technological or electronic failure;
- The prescriber has a waiver granted by the New York State Commissioner of Health;
- The prescriber reasonably determines that it would be impractical for the patient to obtain substances prescribed by electronic prescription in a timely manner
- The prescription will be dispensed at a pharmacy located outside New York State.

E-prescribing offers:

- **Improved Patient Safety and Quality of Patient Care** – E-prescribing will reduce pharmacist follow-up calls to prescribers and medication errors due to misinterpretations of handwriting on written prescriptions.

- **Patient Convenience** – E-prescribing will save time by avoiding separate trips to the pharmacy to drop off the prescription and waiting at the pharmacy for a prescription to be filled. Formulary compliance and any prior authorization activities will already be completed by the physician.

- **Security** – E-prescribing is more secure than paper prescriptions. Paper prescriptions are subject to transcription errors and are targets for theft and tampering. E-prescribing of controlled substances will ensure that controlled substance transactions are transmitted in a secure, encrypted fashion to their intended recipient.
Frequently Asked Questions About Electronic Prescriptions

Why doesn’t my prescriber give me a paper prescription?

As of March 27, 2016, NYS Public Health Law requires your prescriber to electronically prescribe (e-prescribe) all your prescription medications directly to your pharmacy. Prescriptions will no longer be handwritten or called in to your pharmacy, except in limited circumstances.

Can my prescriber email or fax my prescription in to a pharmacy?

No. Emailed and faxed prescriptions are NOT considered electronic prescriptions.

How do I know what was prescribed?

Ask your prescriber what you are being prescribed at each appointment. Your prescriber may be able to give you a list of what is being prescribed and electronically sent to your pharmacy.

Can I still get a paper prescription?

No. Your prescriber must electronically prescribe (e-prescribe) all your prescription medications directly to your pharmacy. Only in rare circumstances will your prescriber be allowed to issue a paper prescription.

Montefiore Pharmacy Information

For more information go to www.montefiore.org/montefiorepharmacy or contact:

Montefiore Employee/OPD Pharm/Moses
3444 Kossuth Avenue Ground Floor
Bronx, New York 10467
718.920.4934

Montefiore Employee Pharm/Einstein
1825 Eastchester Road
Bronx, New York 10461
718.904.2825

Remember: To register to use the new pick-up service for your prescriptions, filled at the Montefiore Outpatient Pharmacy located on the Moses Campus, for delivery to the Einstein Pharmacy at the Weiler Hospital. You are eligible for this additional service if you are enrolled in a Montefiore health plan and also enjoy the additional benefit of paying substantially lower co-pays for using the Monte Rx program.