

# E-NEWS UPDATE APRIL 2017 EDITION

# Attention Wholesalers: Board Extends Licensure Deadline for Previously Exempted Prescriber Locations that Store Controlled Substances

At its April meeting, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy adopted the following resolution:

Resolution: Extension for Licensure of Entities Possessing Controlled Substances

The Board hereby grants an extension to all previously exempted prescribers that possess controlled substances in their offices from the requirement to obtain a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs license in accordance with section 4729.541 of the Revised Code. This extension is hereby valid until **June 1, 2017.** 

This resolution extends the TDDD licensing requirement for these exempted prescribers to June 1, 2017. Wholesalers will still be permitted to sell to these locations during this extension period.

After June 1, 2017, a wholesaler shipping controlled substances to any prescriber office in Ohio must verify the prescriber is appropriately licensed as a Category III Terminal Distributor of Dangerous Drugs by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacv.

For more information on this requirement, please visit: <a href="www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/TDDDcs">www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/TDDDcs</a>.

#### **Updated Guidance for Opioid Analgesic Prescriptions**

The Board has issued updated guidance on the 14-day limit on dispensing of an opioid analgesic prescription. Pursuant to a Board resolution adopted on April 4, 2017, the Board does not consider the following to be classified as an "opioid analgesic" for the purposes of enforcing this requirement:

- 1. Buprenorphine products used for the treatment of opioid dependence or addiction; or
- 2. A controlled substance medication utilized as an antidiarrheal.

A copy of the updated guidance and the Board resolution can be found here: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/OpioidRequirements.

Please be advised that this requirement goes into effect on April 6, 2017.

### **Dispensing Multiple Simultaneous Refills of Prescriptions**

Effective April 6, 2017, Ohio law (<u>section 4729.40</u>) authorizes a pharmacist who is filling or refilling a prescription that has one or more refills to dispense the drug in a quantity or amount that varies from the quantity or amount that would otherwise be dispensed. This authority is contingent on meeting conditions specified in the law, including conditions concerning the quantity or amount that may be dispensed and the type of drug prescribed.

For more information on this law, please visit: <a href="www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/MultipleRefills">www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/MultipleRefills</a>.

### New Limits On Prescription Opiates for Acute Pain

On Thursday, March 30th, Governor Kasich, Board President, Michael Moné, and leaders of the Medical, Nursing and Dental Boards announced <u>new limits on prescription opiate prescribing.</u>

The limits, which must be adopted through administrative rule by each Board, will place commonsense parameters on the use of opiates for the treatment of acute pain. Based on data from the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS), it is estimated that the state could see an additional reduction of 109 million opiate doses once the new rules are in effect.

PLEASE NOTE: The limits are NOT currently effective and must be adopted by the Medical, Nursing and Dental Boards through the administrative rules process. The Board of Pharmacy will be adopting separate rules to assist with the implementation of the limits.

For more information regarding the proposed rules, please visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/acute.