



## **DMAP Provider Alert**

This alert offers additional guidance to providers for ordering tamper-resistant prescription pads. Recently enacted Federal law requires that all State Medicaid Providers use "tamper-resistant" prescription pads. The law applies **to all written, non-electronic prescriptions** for Medicaid outpatient drugs.

**Note:** This law does not apply to prescriptions that are faxed, phoned-in or sent electronically.

### **Effective October 1, 2007:**

Federal law requires prescription pads to contain **at least one** of the characteristics listed below:

- A feature designed to prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form, such as multi-colored ink paper, watermarks, or photocopying that results in the word "VOID" appearing on a facsimile.
- A feature designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information written on the prescription by the prescriber, such as the quantity being represented both numerically and in text (e.g., 10 and "ten") or with a quantity range check box (normal ranges are 1-24, 25-49, 50-74, 75-100, 101-150, 151 and over).
- A feature designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms, such as a heat-sensitive spot on blank forms, forms that have serial numbers, or another method to prevent additional medications from being added to a completed prescription.

**Effective October 1, 2008**, a prescription pad must contain **all three** characteristics to be considered tamper-resistant. If a provider has tamper-resistant prescription pads currently in use that have at least one of the above-referenced features, then they do comply with the forthcoming DMMA Policy. Practitioners are urged to find forms that have all three components if they are ordering for the first time or reordering due to normal depletion.

### **The Tamper-Resistant Pad Requirement APPLIES:**

If the prescriptions are for institutional and group settings and there are not procedures in place that call for a validation of all medications and the dispensed quantities.

### **Prescription Blank Ordering Information**

A uniform layout, format, or style for tamper-resistant pads is not required at this time. Furthermore, DMMA **will not be recommending a specific vendor to be used for ordering prescription pads. It is recommended that providers order pads that comply with at least one requirement as soon as possible.**

More detailed information will be available in the DMAP Practitioner and Pharmacy Provider Manuals.

**Call the Pharmacy Call Center at 1-800-999-3371, option 0, then option 1  
in DE, MD, NJ, PA, and DC for more information.**



<http://www.dmap.state.de.us/downloads/bulletins/Ordering.Tamper-Resistant.Prescription.Pads.Alert.pdf>

Check out the above address for Delaware updates as they are posted.

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