

TO DO LIST

- ✓ Implement electronic prescription software
- ✓ Established an online Health Commerce System (HCS) account required to prescribe controlled drugs
- ✓ Enroll with Medicare

Fall is just around the corner. This is a good time to take a look around your office and address regulatory requirements – especially new ones with deadlines.

✓ ***IMPLEMENT AN ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION SOFTWARE***

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE

Effective March 27, 2016, all prescriptions must be issued electronically. To do so, prescribers must have a software system in place. Electronic prescribing software can be integrated with most electronic patient record software; however, it does not require that the doctor also have an electronic patient record system in the practice. Given that every prescriber statewide is affected, it is crucial that dentists select a software system as soon as possible and begin the implementation process. For those that prescribe controlled drugs, the security verification process and registration with the Department of Health's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement will require additional time. If you do not have a software system in place, after March 27th you will not be able to prescribe for your patients.

If you have an electronic patient record system, check with your current vendor. NYSDA has partnered with Henry Schein to offer members eRX software at a significant discount. This software meets all NYS requirements and can be used as a stand alone or with a Schein electronic patient record system by dentists who do or do not prescribe controlled drugs. Contact Henry Schein at www.HSePrescribe.com or 800-734-5561 for more information.

✓ ***ESTABLISH AN ONLINE HEALTH COMMERCE SYSTEM (HCS) ACCOUNT REQUIRED TO PRESCRIBE CONTROLLED DRUGS***

Do you prescribe controlled drugs? If so, in addition to registering with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), you must establish an online Health Commerce System (HCS) account with the NYS Department of Health. As part of New York's I-STOP legislation, since August 2013, all practitioners who prescribe or dispense controlled medications are required to query the controlled drug Registry each time they prescribe or dispense a controlled substance, regardless of the amount. To access the Registry, prescribers must establish an online Health Commerce System (HCS) account. Additional information on the HCS online account system is available by calling the HCS account system at either: 866-529-1890, option 1; or 866-811-7957, option 1; or on the Health Commerce System website, <https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/>. **Don't forget, you must query the Prescription Monitoring Program Registry (and document that inquiry) to check your patients' prescription history before prescribing any controlled drug.**