

The Benefit of Texas Medicaid Providers Electronically Prescribing Controlled Substances

The DEA allows and encourages the use of electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS) as a modern technology to reduce medication errors and fraud by maintaining a closed system of controls on controlled substances. Despite its availability since 2010, and an over-all increase in electronic prescribing, very few Texas clinicians have adopted its use for controlled substances. While 85% of Texas pharmacies have technology in place to process EPCS, only 2.5% of Texas prescribers are EPCS enabled. This leaves Texas behind the 4.1% national average for prescriber readiness. Being that schedule II-V prescriptions account for 12% of all drug claims, Texas Medicaid supports the use of EPCS and the associated education of prescribers on EPCS utility.

To help prescribers get started in the practice setting, please see either or both of the HHSC endorsed materials at the following links:

- Overview of steps you can take to get started {link to the pdf document provided by HIT}
- Video instructions to show you what to do next {link to the getepcs.org site }