



1305 Corporate Center Drive
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Drug Enforcement Agency Changes Schedule of Hydrocodone Combination Products

Effective October 6, 2014

September 26, 2014

Dear Valued Provider,

On August 22nd, 2014 the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) issued a final rule in which it rescheduled Hydrocodone Combination Products (HCPs) from Schedule III to Schedule II of the Controlled Substances Act, effective October 6, 2014.

As a result, HCP prescriptions written on or after October 6, 2014 cannot have refills and can no longer be faxed or phoned to pharmacies.

Although the DEA is allowing pharmacies to honor remaining refills for HCP prescriptions written before October 6, some pharmacies may not be able to support refills due to system limitations. Further, several states are being more restrictive than the DEA and are not allowing remaining refills to be filled.

Action Required

If a pharmacy is unable to process a refill for a HCP prescription written before October 6 – either due to system limitations or more restrictive state rules - then:

1. Prime urges pharmacies to remind the member that his or her plan has not changed the coverage for HCPs.
2. Pharmacies should help the member get a new prescription from his or her prescriber or suggest that the prescriber consider alternative therapy as appropriate.

If you have questions regarding claims processing, please contact Prime's Contact Center at 1.800.821.4795.

Sincerely,

Pharmacy Network Management
Prime Therapeutics LLC