

NEWSLETTER

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334 Penco Road
Weirton, WV 26062

May 12, 2003

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

BE SURE TO READ THE ENCLOSED NOTICE REGARDING THE PHYSICIANS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY AND THE REQUIRED \$1,000 ASSESSMENT

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION RECORD FORM

As a recommendation from the Legislative Audit Committee, when it is time for your license to be renewed, you will no longer be required to send proof of your continuing medical education hours. You will only need to complete the form that will be enclosed with the renewal application. The CME hours must start from July 1 of the previous two years. The Board may request documentation of entries at any time.

RECOMMENDED SECURITY PRESCRIPTION BLANKS

Due to strong opposition, the emergency rule requiring specific Rx pads was not passed by the legislature. The new legislative bill will now **recommend** rather than mandate specific blanks. The Board of Pharmacy states that Purdue Pharma has agreed to provide free of charge printed blanks with all the features recommended to any practitioner that requests them. The recommendations for the blanks covering Controlled Substances listed in Schedules II, III, and IV are as follows:

- 1 A latent, repetitive "void" pattern screened and printed across the entire front of the prescription blank. If the prescription is photocopied, the word "void" shall appear in a pattern across the entire front of the prescription.
- 2 A watermark printed on the backside of the prescription blank so that it is only seen at a forty-five (45) degree angle.
- 3 An opaque "Rx" symbol or an "Rx" symbol printed in disappearing ink shall appear in the upper part of the blank. The symbol shall disappear if the prescription copy is lightened.
- 4 Six (6) quantity check-off boxes printed on the form and the following quantities shall appear: 1-24; 25-49; 50-74; 75-100; 101-150; and 151 and over; *Provided*, That if the blank has the quantity prescribed electronically printed in both numeric and word format, then the

quantity check-off boxes would not be necessary;

- 5 The following statement printed on the bottom of the prescription blank: "Prescription is void if more than one (1) controlled substance prescription is written per blank";
- 6 Refill options in the following order: Refill NR 1 2 3 4 *Provided*, That if the blank has the refill amount electronically printed in both numeric and word format, then the quantity check-off boxes would not be necessary.
- 7 A prescription shall bear the preprinted, stamped, typed, or manually printed name, address and telephone number of the prescribing practitioner.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES MONITORING PROGRAM

The WV controlled substances monitoring program began receiving data in December 2002 from dispensing pharmacies in the state. These programs have 3 basic goals:

1. To limit access only to those with legitimate medical need.
2. To establish the ability to identify and track instances in which controls are compromised.
3. To identify potential controlled substance abusers and steer them into treatment.

The ultimate goal is to reduce the diversion of legal controlled substances while promoting their appropriate use for patient care.

Certain members of the State Police, DEA, and agents of licensing boards that license prescribers can request information from the system to help them determine whether a patient is receiving controlled substances for a legitimate medical purpose or is a drug seeker that is doctor shopping. All information must be related to a specific patient or a specific individual or entity under investigation. (use Agency Request Form)

Practicing pharmacists and practitioners can also request information regarding a patient that they are treating by submitting a Practitioner Request Form. Once a request has been received, a search will be run on the name(s) listed. If the name appears in the search, then a report will be produced showing the past activities of the patient, what drugs they have received, and the pharmacies in which the prescriptions were filled.

**RENEWAL OF A
PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**

If you, as a physician, are practicing as a Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC), you are required to send the Board office, on or before the first day of July each year, a renewal fee of \$100.00; documentation that the PLLC carries at least one million dollars of professional liability insurance; and a copy of the annual report that is filed with the Secretary of State's office.

This is subject to Legislative Rule §24-4-3.3 and §24-4-3.5.

**FYI IF YOU SUPERVISE A
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT**

§24-2-2.6.1 states that a supervising osteopathic physician shall not employ at any one time more than two osteopathic physician assistants.

§24-2-2.6.6 says no osteopathic physician assistant shall be supervised by and work for more than three supervising osteopathic physicians at one time.

§24-2-2.8.2 reads that the supervising osteopathic physician shall notify the Board in writing of any termination of the employment of his or her osteopathic physician assistant within ten days of the termination.

UPCOMING 2003 HOLIDAYS—BOARD OFFICE CLOSED

May 26, 2003 - Memorial Day
June 20, 2003 - West Virginia Day
July 4, 2003 - Independence Day
September 1, 2003 - Labor Day
October 13, 2003 - Columbus Day
November 11, 2003 - Veterans' Day
November 27, 2003 - Thanksgiving
December 24, 2003 (1/2 day) - Christmas Eve
December 25, 2003 - Christmas
December 31, 2003 (1/2 day) - New Years' Eve
January 1, 2004 - New Years'

It is the duty of each physician to be knowledgeable of the Rules and Regulations that govern their profession. If you do not have a copy of the Rules/Code, you may contact the Board office and we will mail you a booklet, or they may be located at:

www.legis.state.wv.us (Code) Chapter 30, Article 14

www.state.wv.us/csr (Rules) Title 24, Series 1

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held on Friday, May 16, 2003 at 9:30AM in the Charleston Room at the Embassy Suites in Charleston, WV. This is in conjunction with the conference sponsored by WVSOM, Inc.

**CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION
REQUIREMENTS INFORMATION**

All physicians and physician assistants are required to complete two (2) hours of CME in end of life care including pain management. You may view a video from WVU: 304-293-3937; www.cme.wvu.edu; or cme@wvu.edu.

Other websites are:

www.learnwell.org

powerpak.com

lecturehall.com

www.camcinstitute.org/wvsma

URGENT!

To Physicians licensed in West Virginia that have an expiration date of June 30, 2003:

License renewals are due by June 30, 2003. If you do not renew your license by that date, you should not practice medicine. Late renewals are permitted until September 30, 2003; however, applications postmarked after June 30 require an additional late payment fee of \$50.00.

Licensees who fail to renew by September 30, 2003 must reinstate their license, which requires you to complete a new application, not just a renewal form.

