

## By March 27<sup>th</sup> All Orders Must Be Transmitted Electronically to the Pharmacy, Including Discharge Prescriptions

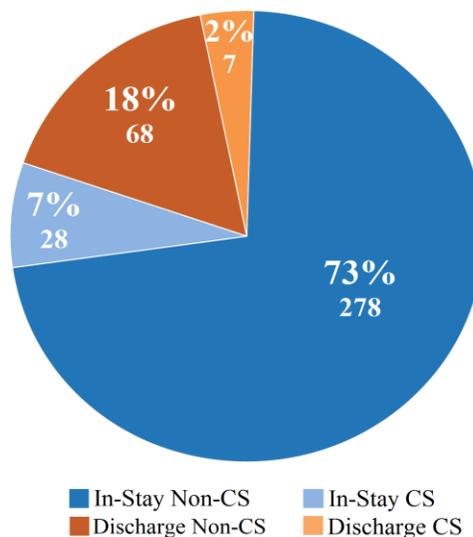
### What you need to know about the NY State ePrescribing Mandate

By March 27, 2015:

- Prescribers must personally sign and transmit electronic prescriptions to the pharmacy; therefore, the current telephone order workflow is no longer allowed in which nurses transmit telephone order to the pharmacy without prescribers signing them.
- All prescriptions for discharged residents must be electronically signed and transmitted to the retail pharmacy by the prescriber
- All prescriptions for controlled substances (CS) must be electronically signed and transmitted to the pharmacy by the prescriber

While ePrescribing of controlled substances has received the most attention, it makes up only a small portion of the order volume as demonstrated in the graphic below. Therefore, it's critical to start preparing for the transition to ePrescribing of all medication orders now - not only to comply with the regulation by the NY Department of Health Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, but to enhance medication management in the long run.

### New Medication Orders Per Prescriber Per Month



20% = Discharge Scripts (CS & Non-CS)  
9% = Controlled Substances (In-Stay & Discharge Scripts)

Source: SigmaCare customer base



## Benefits of ePrescribing for your organization

Although this mandate proposes a workflow change, there are significant benefits:

- Improved patient safety with electronic drug interaction checking and fewer medication errors
- Elimination of prescription transcription by the pharmacy
- Fewer call backs by the pharmacy for clarification
- Faster medication delivery by the pharmacy
- Improved survey compliance with respect to medication management
- Improved cost savings for the facility with formulary management
- Improved time savings through elimination of paper order workflows on discharge

## How to prepare your physicians & organization for ePrescribing

- Reach out to your EHR and pharmacy providers to ensure that they are working together to prepare for ePrescribing
- Meet with your clinical teams to review ePrescribing requirements
  - If you're using paper today, ensure that you select and implement a CPOE/EHR system that supports electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS) and discharge scripts by March 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - If you're using a CPOE/EHR today, review how ePrescribing will impact current medication ordering workflow and ensure your system supports EPCS and ePrescribing for discharge scripts.
  - Work with your Medical Director and prescribers to prepare for their role in approving all orders electronically and to prepare for EPCS registration (including identity proofing and the assignment of two factor authentication tokens).

**March 27<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner. We want to make sure you're ready. Stay posted for more information from SigmaCare about the NYS ePrescribing Mandate.**

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