

Alabama State Board of Pharmacy

Policy 20120826

Subject: Requirements of Written Prescriptions for Controlled Substances

Background

Both the DEA Practitioner (Prescriber) Manual and the DEA Pharmacist (Dispenser) Manual state that **the practitioner's full name, address, and DEA registration number must** be included on the prescription.

Issue

Often the information is not provided by the Practitioner. Can the Pharmacist add the information? If so, is there a requirement to put in a specific location?

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The missing information may be added by the Pharmacist. If not provided directly by the Practitioner, the Pharmacist may use other sources, including the pharmacy computer system. However, the dispensing Pharmacist is responsible for the accuracy of the information added. The information may be handwritten or placed on the prescription using a printed label. The position and whether on front or back of the document do not affect the requirement. The information must be included on the prescription somewhere in order to be a valid prescription.