RULEMAKING ACTION:
EMERGENCY adoption

RULES:
475:30-1-4. Manner of issuance of prescriptions [AMENDED]

AUTHORITY:
The Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, 63 O.S §§ 2-301, 2-309H.

ADOPTION:
October 29, 2018

EFFECTIVE:
Immediately upon Governor's approval or November 1, 2018, whichever is later.

EXPIRATION:
Effective through September 14, 2019, unless superseded by another rule or disapproved by the Legislature.

SUPERSEDED EMERGENCY ACTIONS:
n/a

INCORPORATIONS BY REFERENCE:
n/a

FINDING OF EMERGENCY:
On November 1, 2018, a new law will go into effect, 63 O.S. §2-309I, that sets limits on opioid prescriptions. The amendment to the rule is an effort to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by providing a subsequent prescription for qualifying opioids due to a major surgical procedure and/or "confined to home" status where the subsequent prescription includes a "do not fill until" date on the prescription.

GIST/ANALYSIS:
A new law, 63 O.S. §2-309I, goes into effect on November 1, 2018, that limits opioid prescriptions for acute pain. The new law allows for an initial seven (7) day prescription. It also allows the issuance of a second opioid prescription no less than seven (7) days after the initial prescription. The second opioid prescription shall not exceed seven (7) days. This rule allows practitioners who perform a major surgical procedure, and/or patients who are "confined to home" as defined in 42 U.S.C. §1395n(a), to issue the second prescription on the same day as the first prescription. The second prescription shall have written instructions indicating the earliest date on which the prescription may be filled (i.e. "do not fill until" date).

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PURSUANT TO THE ACTIONS DESCRIBED HEREIN, THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY RULES ARE CONSIDERED PROMULGATED UPON APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNOR AS SET FORTH IN 75 O.S., SECTION 253(F), AND EFFECTIVE UPON APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNOR OR NOVEMBER 1, 2018, WHICHEVER IS LATER:
475:30-1-4. Manner of issuance of prescriptions

(a) The practitioner shall sign a written prescription in the same manner as he/she would sign a check or legal document and shall also type, stamp or print the practitioner's name on the face of each prescription. Where an oral order is not permitted, prescriptions shall be written with ink. All written prescriptions shall be manually signed by the practitioner. The prescriptions may be prepared by an agent for the signature of a practitioner, but the prescribing practitioner is responsible in the event the prescription does not conform in all essential respects to the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act and this Chapter.

(b) A resident or staff practitioner, an intern of a teaching hospital, or a limited institutional practitioner of a federal, state or local government hospital or institution, exempted from registration or registered in fee-exempt status with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control, shall include on all prescriptions issued by him/her the hospital or institutional Federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number with the special internal code number assigned by the hospital or other institution; or include on all prescriptions he/she issues his/her personal Federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number. Such prescriptions issued by interns of a teaching hospital, if for outpatients, must be countersigned by a practitioner licensed by the practitioner's appropriate State of Oklahoma licensing board.

(c) A practitioner must state on a written prescription for any controlled dangerous substance the name, address and Federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number of the practitioner; the date of delivery of the prescription; the name, dosage and strength per dosage unit of the controlled dangerous substance; the name and address of the patient, or if it is a veterinary prescription, the species of the animal and the name and address of the owner; the directions for use and any cautionary statements required; and if allowable, the number of times to be refilled.

(1) The face of a prescription must not be materially altered; if an error is made in filling out the prescription, a new prescription must be written by the prescribing practitioner.

(A) A pharmacist may add to the prescription the patient's address or age, the prescribing practitioner's federal DEA number, or the generic drug name if used.

(B) After confirming with the prescribing practitioner, the pharmacist may add information indicating the strength, whether tablet or capsule form, and whether it is compounded if such additions would not materially alter the prescription.

(C) If omitted, the directions (Sig) or the quantity, may be added by the pharmacist after confirming with the prescribing practitioner.

(D) Documentation of contacting the prescribing practitioner will be noted on the back of the prescription regarding (B) and (C) above.

(2) A written prescription for a controlled dangerous substance in Schedule II becomes invalid thirty (30) days after the date of issuance, with day one (1) of the thirty (30) day period being the first day after the date of issuance. After issuing an initial prescription pursuant to Section 2-309I of Title 63, an individual practitioner may issue one (1) subsequent prescription for an immediate-release opioid drug in Schedule II in a quantity not to exceed seven (7) days if:

(A) The subsequent prescription is due to a major surgical procedure and/or "confined to home" status as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1395n(a);
(B) The practitioner provides the subsequent prescription on the same day as the initial prescription;
(C) The practitioner provides written instruction on the subsequent prescription indicating the earliest date on which the prescription may be filled (i.e. "do not fill until" date); and
(D) The subsequent prescription is dispensed no more than five (5) days after the "do not fill until" date indicated on the prescription.

(3) Each scheduled drug shall be written on a single prescription form, and no other prescriptions (controlled or non-controlled) shall be written on the same prescription form.

d) Upon receiving an oral prescription, the pharmacist must reduce the oral prescription to the form specified in (c) of this Section, including the typewritten name of the prescribing practitioner. The pharmacist filling any prescription for any controlled dangerous substance must enter the date of filling and handwrite the initials of the pharmacist on the prescription. If the practitioner is not known to the pharmacist, he/she must make a reasonable effort to determine that the oral authorization came from a registered practitioner.

e) Upon receiving an oral prescription, the pharmacist may use a computer printout label if the label meets all requirements for a prescription as set out by the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act and this Chapter. On computer labeling for oral prescriptions, it is not necessary that the Drug Enforcement Administration registration number be on the label used as an oral prescription, but it must be recorded on the document prepared by the pharmacist.

(f) Written prescriptions may be transmitted by a practitioner to a dispensing pharmacy by facsimile. In such cases, the prescribing practitioner shall print "FAXED" on the face of the prescription, and the facsimile received must be on non-fading standard paper. Thermographic paper is not acceptable for any prescriptions for drugs in any Schedule.

(1) For drugs in Schedules III, IV, and V, a facsimile of a written, signed prescription transmitted directly by the prescribing practitioner to the pharmacy can serve as an original prescription.

(2) For drugs in Schedule II, the original written prescription must still be presented and verified against the facsimile at the time the substance is actually dispensed and the original document must be properly annotated and retained for filing subject to the exceptions listed in (3) below.

(3) Exception to (2): A facsimile copy of a prescription for a Schedule II drug when sent by facsimile by the prescribing practitioner:

(A) To a Home Infusion Pharmacy.
(B) When the prescription is for a patient in a Long Term Care Facility.
(C) When the prescription is for a patient in a Hospice program certified by Medicare under Title XVIII or licensed by the state.
(D) If the facsimile is sent from a LTCF or hospice instead of the prescribing practitioner's office, the original must be presented at the time any CDS is dispensed.

(g) The pharmacist still bears the responsibility for ensuring that prescriptions for controlled substances have been issued for a legitimate medical purpose by an individual practitioner acting in the usual course of his/her professional practice. This responsibility applies equally to an order transmitted by facsimile. Measures to be considered in authenticating prescriptions sent by facsimile equipment would include maintenance of a practitioner's facsimile number reference file, verification of the telephone number of the originating facsimile equipment and/or telephone number.
verification with the practitioner's office that the prescription was both written by the practitioner and transmitted by the practitioner or the practitioner's agent.

(h) Electronic prescriptions are permitted as provided by 21 CFR §§ 1311 et. seq.