

Compromised Prescribing Credentials Pharmacists



If you believe you were presented a Controlled Substances (CS) prescription from a missing or stolen prescription pad or a DEA number is fraudulently being used on prescriptions consider taking the following actions:

1. Contact the prescriber whose name is on the prescription by searching for a phone number using a Google (or equivalent search engine) search and your central prescriber database in your pharmacy computer to confirm the medical legitimacy of the prescription. **DO NOT** call the number on the paper prescription without first searching the number to verify it is accurate. Fraudulent prescriptions may list a number that is not associated with the prescriber.
2. Check the patient's prescription history in the PDMP to assess if the patient has received a similar prescription in the past.
3. For paper prescriptions check the Board of Pharmacy's list of recently reported stolen or missing prescription pads *website*. The Board offers a current list and a pre-2015 list.



If after following up with the provider, assessing the PDMP, and checking the Board of Pharmacy website you believe the prescription uses a providers DEA number fraudulently or comes from a missing or stolen prescription pad consider:

1. Informing the patient you are unable to fill the prescription at this time. According to Maryland regulations, you may refuse to dispense a CS if after consulting with the prescriber and based on generally accepted professional standards for the practice of pharmacy, you have reason to believe that the prescription was not issued for a legitimate medical purpose in the usual course of the prescriber's practice (COMAR 10.34.10.08).
2. Offering the patient naloxone if you have reason to believe the patient may have a substance use disorder or is at risk of witnessing or experiencing an overdose.
3. Calling your local police (some have narcotics divisions who may investigate).
4. Contacting DEA, as they may investigate (410) 962-7580.
5. Emailing or calling the Office of Controlled Substances Administration (OCSA) to document the complaint at Maryland.OCSA@maryland.gov or (667) 910-8810.