

Summary of Rules on Prescribing by Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants & Clinical Pharmacist Practitioners

Nurse Practitioners

The State Rule dealing with prescribing by Nurse Practitioners is found at 21NCAC 32M.0109 and provides, among other things, that Nurse Practitioners may prescribe controlled substances (II-V) providing that these drugs are included in the collaborative practice agreement with the supervising physician and the Nurse Practitioner has a DEA registration number. Each prescription document must contain the name of the supervising physician, the name of the patient, the Nurse Practitioner's name, telephone number and prescribing number and, in the case of controlled substances, their DEA number. Dosage units for Schedules II and III drugs are limited to a 30-day supply. Nurse Practitioners may now authorize up to five refills or six months on prescriptions for Schedule III drugs. Additional rules can be found at 21NCAC 32M .1015, et. seq.

Physician Assistants

The State Rule dealing with prescribing by Physician Assistants is found at 21NCAC 32S.0109 and provides, among other things, that Physician Assistants may prescribe controlled substances (II-V) providing that these drugs are included in the supervisory arrangement with the supervising physician and the Physician Assistants have a DEA registration number. Prescriptions by Physician Assistants, in addition to other information required by law, must contain the Physician Assistant's name, practice address, telephone number and the Physician Assistant's license number and, if controlled substances are prescribed, the Physician Assistant's DEA number. The responsible supervising physician's name and telephone number also needs to be on each prescription.

In order to prescribe controlled substances both the Physician Assistant and the supervising physician must have a valid DEA registration and all prescriptions for drugs in Schedules II and III shall not exceed a 30 day supply. Physician Assistants may authorize refills for controlled substances, consistent with state and federal law, as well as other prescription drugs.

Additional rules can be found at 21 NCAC 32S .0101, et. seq.

Clinical Pharmacist Practitioners

Clinical Pharmacist Practitioners may prescribe drugs pursuant to 21NCAC 32T. Any drugs prescribed must be included in the agreement with the supervising physician. Clinical Pharmacist Practitioners who issue orders for controlled substances must have a DEA registration number.