



## Electronic Prescription Management

Electronic prescribing enables a physician to transmit a prescription electronically to a patient's pharmacy of choice. It decreases prescription errors caused by hard-to-read handwriting and provides clinical decision support to reduce preventable errors such as drug-drug interactions, drug-allergy reactions, dosing errors, and therapeutic duplication. Workflow efficiency for the caregiver and support staff is improved while enhancing communication through all parts of the prescribing chain.

As of January 2009, practices that meet minimum e-prescribing criteria are eligible for CMS bonuses. The 2% Medicare incentive is effective for calendar year 2009 and 2010. You need to demonstrate use of electronic prescribing for 50% or higher of applicable cases. The bonus is reduced to 1% in 2011 and 2012 then to 0.5% in 2013. Practices that do not implement electronic prescribing will face a 1% cut in 2012 and 2013. The penalty will grow to 2% in 2014 and beyond. For further information, including instructions to report use of electronic prescribing on your claim forms via G codes, refer to the AMA Frequently Asked Question Guide available here: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/472/faq-cms-incentive-program.pdf>.

---

Practices with EHR software should strongly consider use of electronic prescription tools included in their EHR solution. For practices that have not yet implemented EHR software, a free alternative is available through the National ePrescribing Patient Safety Initiative (NEPSI) and Allscripts. This solution, **eRXNow**, is available via the Internet and meets CMS minimum requirements. Patient demographic integration with Misys PM, Tiger, and Vision as well as the Allscripts Professional and Enterprise practice management systems is also available at no cost.



Useful website links to move forward with the free electronic prescription tool:

Basic Information	<a href="http://eprescribe.allscripts.com/about">http://eprescribe.allscripts.com/about</a>
Tutorials	<a href="http://erxnowhelp.allscripts.com/tutorials.htm">http://erxnowhelp.allscripts.com/tutorials.htm</a>
Webinar (Windows Media)	<a href="http://www.nationalerx.com/media/webinar.asx">http://www.nationalerx.com/media/webinar.asx</a>
FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)	<a href="https://eprescribe.allscripts.com/help/faq.html">https://eprescribe.allscripts.com/help/faq.html</a>
Registration Page	<a href="https://erxnowregistration.allscripts.com/">https://erxnowregistration.allscripts.com/</a>
Practice Management Interface List	<a href="http://erxnowhelp.allscripts.com/interfacelist.html">http://erxnowhelp.allscripts.com/interfacelist.html</a>

Contact FredMed at (240) 379.6060 for any additional questions or to coordinate a demographic interface with FredMed hosted practice management software.