

EPCS: What is it?

Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances – allows providers to prescribe controlled substances electronically, limiting the occurrence of forged/stolen prescriptions and “doctor shopping” by increasing authenticating prescribers and increasing security.

Why is it being instituted? The Federal DEA is mandating that all prescriptions for controlled substance be submitted to pharmacies via electronic means. **This means no more paper prescriptions can be given to patients.**

Walmart and OptimRX are implementing this change **effective January 2020**, which will affect many of our patients. This is in advance of the DEA mandate due January 2021. **Therefore, UMMS (the entire system) will be putting this into operation in January 2020.**

How does this affect physicians/practitioners?

In order to prescribe electronically at UMMS (including all outpatient areas), **all prescribers will need to be authorized to do so within EPIC**. Those with privileges at more than one UMMS hospital will only need to be enrolled once. This involves the following:

- The provider must authenticate the prescription using 2 of the following 3 factors:
 - o Something only the provider knows, such as a password
 - o Something the provider is, such as fingerprint biometrics
 - o Something the provider has, such as a one-time password token, which is separate from the device that the provider is using to prescribe (obtained on your smartphone)

To do this, **all prescribers need to be enrolled in Imprivata**, which will require **in-person identity-proofing** by authorized personnel.

What does this mean for you? You will need to be enrolled by the Medical Staff Office (or other designated enrollment specialists from FPI) prior to December 13th.

The Downtown Campus will host enrollment marathons November 6 – 8, and the weeks of November 11 and 18. Following that period, enrollment will continue to occur during regular business hours within the Medical Staff Office, as well as at specific grand rounds and off site locations. More specific schedule information will follow.

The Midtown Medical Staff Office will host enrollment marathons November 14 and 15, and week of November 18th. Following that period, enrollment will continue to occur during regular business hours within the Medical Staff Office. More specific schedule information will follow.

What's involved?

- **Plan your visit to the Medical Staff Office or other enrollment opportunity to be announced**
- **Download Imprivata from the App or Google Play Store onto your smartphone before you**



(Android 7 or later, or iOS11 or later required)

- **Bring a government-issued ID (Driver's License or Passport)**
- **If you are approved for suboxone prescribing, confirm that the Medical Staff Office has this information.**

Enrollment of each prescriber will take about 3-5 minutes. For further questions regarding enrollment, please contact Allison Andrus, Director of Medical Staff Services, at aandrus@umm.edu.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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