

CATEGORY ONE

Features to prevent unauthorized copying

1. Pantograph: The word “void” appears when the prescription is photocopied.

2. Reverse “Rx” or white area: “Rx” symbol or white area that disappears when photocopied at a light setting.

Security back print: Words, such as “security prescription,” printed on the prescription’s back.

Watermarking: Paper with watermarks.

CATEGORY TWO

Features to prevent erasure or modification of information

1. Non-white background: Paper’s background features a solid color or consistent pattern.

2. Quantity ranges: Boxes that can be checked by the physician to indicate the number of doses.

3. Refill indicator: Indicates the number of refills allowed.

4. Rx limit: A line specifying the number of prescriptions allowed for different drugs on the same form.

Chemically reactive paper: Exposure to solvents, oxidants, acids or alkalis will leave a visible mark.

Quantity and refill borders: For EMRs, quantity or refill limits appear between asterisks; quantity or refill limits also could be spelled out.

Paper toner fuser: Special toner bonds tightly to paper, making modification difficult.

CATEGORY THREE

Features to prevent counterfeiting

1. Features list: A complete list of security features on the paper (highly recommended).

2. Serial number: Unique number for each prescription, which may or may not be sequential, but should be reported to the state to be valid.

Batch number: For states with approved vendors, a number identifying each batch of prescriptions.

Encoding techniques: Bar codes used to encode a serial number, for example.

Logos: Sometimes used as part of the background color or as a pantograph.

Metal strip: A strip of metal embedded in the paper.

RECOMMENDED RX PAD FEATURES

A cross section of interest groups has developed a list of prescription pad features to satisfy a Medicaid Rx security law taking effect April 1. Precautions are divided into three categories. Written Medicaid prescriptions must have at least one feature from one category by April 1. Pads must include one security element from all three categories by Oct. 1.

Some options are highlighted in the sample prescription.

1

VOID **1**

John Smith, MD
Specialty

Rx **2**

123 Your Address
Yourtown, USA 00000
(000) 000-0000

#000001 **2**

Lic. # C39656
DEA # AH9729469

1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS VOID PANTOGRAPH, REVERSE RX, NON-WHITE BACKGROUND,
QUANTITY RANGE, REFILL INDICATOR, RX LIMIT, NUMBERING

Name _____

Address _____ Date _____

1-24
 25-49
 50-75 **2**
 75-100
 101-150
 151 and over

Refill NR **3**

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

_____ Units

Signature _____

4 _____ Prescription is void if the number of drugs prescribed is not noted

SOURCE: NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAMS, FEBRUARY