

## **KY REC Tip for the Kentucky Medicaid EHR Incentive Program (Promoting Interoperability)**

### **Electronic Prescribing (eRx)**

#### **What does Stage 3 require for Electronic Prescribing?**

Electronically generate and transmit permissible prescriptions electronically (eRx). More than 60% of permissible prescriptions written by the EP are queried for a drug formulary and transmitted electronically using certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT).

#### **Exclusion:**

Any EP who:

- Writes fewer than 100 permissible prescriptions during the EHR reporting period; or
- Does not have a pharmacy within their organization and there are no pharmacies that accept electronic prescriptions within 10 miles of the EP's practice location at the start of the EHR reporting period.

#### **Permissible Prescriptions:**

"Permissible prescriptions" may include or not include controlled substances based on EP selection where creation of an electronic prescription for the medication is feasible using CEHRT and allowable by state and local law.



### Common Errors:

- Paper prescriptions may not be excluded from the denominator if the patient requests paper vs. eRx.
- Practices with multiple locations can take the exclusion if at least one of their locations is equipped with CEHRT and meet the exclusion criteria.
- The drug formulary feature must be turned on in the EHR and it must be ran on every eRx to count in the numerator.
- Prescriptions that are created using EHR and printed, but not electronically sent to the pharmacy do not count. Prescriptions must be sent electronically.
- The practice can be the one to decide if they include controlled substances in the permissible prescriptions.
  - The majority of Kentucky pharmacies now accept controlled substances to be e-prescribed; however, you would need to work with your vendor to set up authorization to do so.

### Best Practices:

- Track paper prescriptions provided in EHR or log.
- Train staff and providers on how eRx works in your system.
- Review workflow regularly to ensure it is being followed by providers and staff.
- Check reports monthly to see how providers are doing to meet this objective.
- Review results and best practices in your monthly meeting.
- Share the KY REC Tip Sheet with staff and providers.
- EPs should include electronic transmissions both within and outside the organization in the numerator and denominator.

CMS EP Specification Sheet – Electronic Prescribing:

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/medicaid-ep-2020-erx-objective-2.pdf>