

We're Making the Leap to Electronic Prescribing!



To our patients:

We are now using an electronic prescribing system which will allow our office to send prescriptions directly to your pharmacy.

What is electronic prescribing?

Instead of writing your prescription on a piece of paper, your doctor will use a computer system to send the prescription directly to your pharmacy.

How does it work?

Electronic prescriptions are sent using a private, secure, and closed network. Your prescription information is not sent over the open Internet or as e-mail.

Can the prescription be sent to any pharmacy?

Yes. You choose which pharmacy will receive your prescriptions. Currently, more than 75 percent of U.S. pharmacies accept electronic prescriptions. If you do not want your prescription to be sent electronically, your doctor will print your prescription for you.

What are the benefits of electronic prescriptions?

Electronic prescriptions are fast and convenient. You won't have to make an extra trip to drop off your prescription at the pharmacy.

Electronic prescriptions have other benefits. Storing information about your medications electronically can help our office keep track of your medications and may help to prevent allergic reactions and drug-to-drug reactions. Our system may be able to help us suggest generic and other medicines with lower out-of-pocket costs for you.



PATIENT TIPS

With electronic prescribing, there will be changes in how you fill new prescriptions and how you request refills. Here are some tips:

New Prescriptions

- **Choose a pharmacy where we should send your prescriptions.** We recommend that you select only one pharmacy, which will help your pharmacist to prevent drug-to-drug reactions.
- **Allow 10-20 minutes for the prescription to arrive at the pharmacy.** Electronic prescriptions are usually transmitted quickly. Once the pharmacy receives your prescription, they will also need time to fill it.
- When you arrive at the pharmacy, **let the pharmacist know that your prescription was sent electronically** from our office. Ask your pharmacy if it is their policy to fill your prescription as soon as they receive it or after you've arrived at the pharmacy.
- **Some medications will still require paper prescriptions.** Prescriptions for some pain medications and other "controlled substances" cannot be sent electronically.

Prescription Refills

- **Call your pharmacy** instead of calling us when you need to get more refills on your prescription. The pharmacy will send an electronic request to our office.
- Plan ahead! Electronic refill requests can happen quickly, but like other types of requests, prescriptions with zero refills **may take up to four (4) days** to get approval.
- **Call the pharmacy to make sure your refills are ready** before you go to pick them up.