



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Health & Family Welfare Department - Drugs Control Department - Guidelines to govern electronic prescription - Orders issued.

HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (F) DEPARTMENT

G.O(Rt.)No.2808/2018/H&FWD

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 13.09.2018

Read:- Letter No.A 14296/17/DC dated 18/11/2017 & 13/06/2018 from the Drugs Controller

ORDER


One of the practices that lead to antibiotic resistance is the sale of over the counter drugs without prescription. In many countries tele consultation has become the practice. But it will not be effective to control Over The Counter sales if prescription also becomes electronic. When e-Health is implemented prescriptions in Government system will become electronic. But the problem of obtaining prescriptions during non hospital hours will still remain a problem. Drugs Controller as per letter read above has informed that the law requires chemists to be satisfied that the prescription is from a registered medical practitioner. In this circumstance, Government are pleased to issue the following guidelines to govern electronic prescription till detailed system of electronic prescription is worked out.

1. Electronic prescription will be permitted only between designated care provider and chemist. That is any individual who wishes to avail this facility will have to designate a physician as his "Designated Physician". He will also have to designate one or more chemists as his "pharmacy (ies)". The individual, designated physician and pharmacies will enter into an agreement of collaboration. Under this agreement the Designated Physician agrees to send prescriptions for that individual to the agreed telephone number and/or email ID of the pharmacy(ies). This mail shall be sufficient proof of prescription for the pharmacy to dispense to the patient.
2. The Designated Physician may also forward prescriptions by Whatsapp to the individual which he may share with any pharmacy which is not a nominated one. In such cases the Designated Physician shall write out a prescription on her letter pad showing the registration number, scan the same and forward the scanned image to the individual. This shall be sufficient proof for pharmacists to complete the prescription.
3. The designate physician may be either in government of private sector.
4. Schedule X drugs shall not be prescribed in either of the above manner.

(By order of the Governor),
C. K. VINODAN
Deputy Secretary to Government

The Director of Medical Education, Thiruvananthapuram
The Director of Health Services, Thiruvananthapuram
The Drugs Controller, Thiruvananthapuram
The Registrar, Kerala State Pharmacy Council, Thiruvananthapuram
The Principal Accountant General (Audit/A&E), Thiruvananthapuram
Information & Public Relations (Web & Newmedia) Department
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