



Indiana Board of Pharmacy

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Governor Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr

To: All Board of Pharmacy Licensees
From: Phil Wickizer, Director
Indiana Board of Pharmacy
Date: January 9, 2012
Re: Notice – Approval of Use of *TransferSafe* System by Walgreens Company

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Dear License Holders:

Please note that the Indiana Board of Pharmacy officially voted at its January 9, 2012 meeting to allow use of the *TransferSafe* system by Walgreens Company for a period of 90 days beginning on January 9, 2012. Accordingly, this notice will authorize Walgreens Company to use an alternative procedure for the transfer of prescription information from one pharmacy to another pharmacy. In particular, the *TransferSafe* application utilizes a web portal that permits pharmacy personnel at a destination pharmacy to electronically retrieve a prescription housed in the Walgreens prescription database, for the purpose of transferring the prescription information from a Walgreens pharmacy to the destination pharmacy. It is our understanding the process records the destination pharmacy information in the prescription record in the Walgreens system and adjusts the prescription status as transferred; further, it is our understanding, this alternative process is not available for prescriptions for controlled substances.

It is our understanding the stimulus for the request is the change in contract status for those patients enrolled in prescription benefit plans managed by Express Scripts that occurred on December 31, 2011, and the expectation of a substantial number of patients requiring their prescriptions to be transferred from a Walgreens pharmacy to a different pharmacy. Given the usual telephone procedures in place for the transfer of prescription information, it would not be unreasonable to expect significant wait times and other unusual delays associated with the conversion process.

In the hope of facilitating the transfer of prescription information between pharmacies in a timely manner for the benefit of Indiana residents, the Indiana Board of Pharmacy authorizes the use of the *TransferSafe* application for a period of time as determined necessary by Walgreens; however, this authority shall terminate at expiration of 90 days. It is the Board's intention to permit this alternative process to serve the transition period caused by the Express Script contract termination, and that Walgreens should determine when that transition period has reasonably concluded, even if less than the approximately 90 day period authorized in this communication. In the event Walgreen should determine a longer period of time is needed beyond 90 days, Walgreens shall petition the Board and provide a reasonable basis for such request.

Sincerely,

Phil Wickizer