

Revised ADA SCDI
White Paper No. 1070

Electronic Pharmaceutical Prescription Standard for Dentistry

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REVISED ADA SCDI WHITE PAPER NO. 1070 FOR ELECTRONIC PHARMACEUTICAL PRESCRIPTION STANDARD FOR DENTISTRY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(This Executive Summary does not form a part of the proposed revision of ADA White Paper No. 1070 for Electronic Pharmaceutical Prescription Standard for Dentistry.)

E-prescribing, an electronic method of generating pharmaceutical prescriptions utilizing specialized software and a transmission network that links the provider to participating pharmacies, has been accepted to a great extent by the medical community due to the improvement in quality of care, reduced errors and improved efficiency that it provides.

The ADA SCDI recommends that dental practices adopt E-prescribing utilizing dental practice management systems that have implemented software based on the e-prescribing standard developed by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs known as NCPDP/SCRIPT.

This white paper encourages early adoption of E-prescribing by dentists and discusses the benefits of interoperable, standards based e-prescribing systems, their features and pros and cons of adoption. Interoperability is an important feature of e-prescribing systems so that dentists are not tied to closed, proprietary systems and networks.

The paper further notes that health plans supporting the Medicare Part D drug program are required to support E-prescribing and that physicians and pharmacies must utilize standard transactions, including NCPDP/SCRIPT, which has been adopted by HHS. This, plus the broad growth in adoption by physicians, is helping to bring down the cost of implementation.

When implemented, E-prescribing will provide dentists with increased accuracy of the prescription, resulting in better health care outcomes without additional resources being spent.

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The Council on Dental Practice of the American Dental Association has approved American Dental Association Technical Report No. 1070 for Electronic Pharmaceutical Prescription Standard for Dentistry. Working Groups of the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI) formulate this and other specifications and technical reports for the application of information technology and other electronic technologies to dentistry's clinical and administrative operations. The ADA SCDI has representation from appropriate interests in the United States in the standardization of information technology and other electronic technologies used in dental practice. The ADA SCDI confirmed approval of ADA Technical Report No. 1070 on July 12, 2016.

The ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics thanks the members of Working Group 10.13 on Electronic Prescription Standard and the organizations with which they were affiliated at the time the specification was developed:

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Gary Gooddell, American Association of Endodontists, individual representative, Colorado Springs, CO;

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FOREWORD

(This Foreword does not form a part of Revised ADA White Paper No. 1070 for Electronic Pharmaceutical Prescription Standard for Dentistry.)

In 1992, there was interest in the standardization of clinical information systems related to electronic technology in the dental environment. After evaluating current informatics activities, a Task Group of the ANSI Accredited Standards Committee MD156 (ASC MD156) was created by the ADA to initiate the development of technical reports, guidelines, and standards on electronic technologies used in dental practice. In 1999, the ADA established the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI). The ADA SCDI is currently the group that reviews and approves proposed American National Standards (ANSI approved) and technical reports developed by the standards committee's working groups. The ADA became an ANSI accredited standards organization in 2000.

The scope of the ADA SCDI is:

“The ADA SCDI shall develop informatics standards, technical reports and guidelines and interact with other entities involved in the development of health informatics standards aimed at implementation across the dental profession.”

This white paper was prepared by SCDI Working Group 10.13 Electronic Prescription Standard at the request of Jonathan Knapp, chairman, SCDI Subcommittee on Information Exchange. The chairman of SCDI Working Group 10.13 is Mohammednazar F. Harunani.