



THE NEW YORK STATE RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY
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September 3, 2015

Howard A. Zucker, MD
Commissioner
New York State Department of Health
Office of the Commissioner
Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237

Dear Commissioner Zucker:

Implementation of the e-prescribing mandate is quickly approaching. As part of a continued educational effort to make prescribers aware of this requirement, we would like to encourage you to send a "Dear Colleague" letter reminding physicians of the March 27, 2016 effective date. The sheer number of e-prescribing applications and the growing number of products certified for electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS), while affording physicians a greater array of options from which to choose, can make selection more difficult and time consuming. A letter from you will remind them to begin their inquiry and selection process. A letter from you can also inform physicians about the Registration for Official Prescriptions and E-prescribing Systems (ROPES) application for registering EPCS software with the Department of Health.

If at all possible, we urge the publication of the "waiver process" as soon as possible so to mitigate the potential influx of a significant number of waiver requests to the department in late March. Additionally, we respectfully urge you to grant waivers to physicians who, due to their specialty or the voluntary or part time nature of their work, prescribe less than 25 prescriptions a year.

Each of our organizations remains committed to ongoing and comprehensive educational efforts. Throughout the next several months we will be sponsoring or facilitating forums, webinars and articles concerning the approaching effective date of the e-prescribing requirement. We are ready to assist the NYS Department of Health in ensuring a smooth transition to e-prescribing of non-controlled and controlled substances. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

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S. Richard Cavoli, MD, President
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