

TO: EXECUTIVE OFFICERS – STATE BOARDS OF PHARMACY
FROM: Lemrey “Al” Carter, Executive Director/Secretary
DATE: November 21, 2024
RE: DEA and HHS Issue Extension of Telemedicine Flexibilities for CS Prescribing

United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a Third Temporary Rule that extends telemedicine flexibilities regarding the prescribing of controlled substances (CS) through December 31, 2025. These telemedicine flexibilities have been in place under the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency since January 31, 2020.

This extension is being granted to ensure a smooth transition for patients and practitioners who rely on the availability of telemedicine for CS prescriptions. The additional time will allow DEA and HHS to promulgate proposed and final regulations that are consistent with public health and safety and mitigate the risk of possible diversion. In addition, it will allow providers adequate time to comply with any new standards or safeguards eventually adopted in a final set of regulations.

See the [Federal Register notice](#) for more information.

cc: NABP Executive Committee