

## Who must keep records?

- A practitioner who handles controlled substances, other than prescriptions (21 CFR § 1304.03(b))—except electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS) prescriptions (21 CFR § 1304.03(c))
- A practitioner who prescribes an FDA-approved CIII-V narcotic controlled substance for opioid maintenance and/or detoxification (21 CFR § 1304.03(c) & (d))

The **DEA registrant** is the person who is responsible for keeping controlled substance records—not a nurse, office manager, corporation, vendor, or employer.

## **General Recordkeeping Requirements**

Requirements that apply to all controlled substance records required to be kept:

- Must be complete and accurate (21 C.F.R. § 1304.21(a))
- Must be stored at the registered location (21 C.F.R. § 1304.21(b))
- Must be kept for two years (21 C.F.R. § 1304.04(a))
- Must be readily retrievable (21 C.F.R. § 1304.04(f)(2))
- Must be kept for each separate DEA-registered activity (21 C.F.R. § 1304.21(c))
- Must be kept for each DEA-registered location (21 C.F.R. § 1304.21 (b))

## **Controlled Substance Records**

Schedule II controlled substance records shall be maintained separately from all other records

Records of Schedules III-V controlled substances must be kept separate from all other records or readily retrievable

- Records that are readily retrievable can be separated out in a reasonable time (21 C.F.R. § 1300.03)
- Some examples of ways to render your records readily retrievable include but not limited to (21 C.F.R. § 1300.01):
  - Items asterisked
  - Redlined
  - Or in some manner which sets them visually apart

Questions regarding records, inventories, and reports:
Diversion Control Division
Liaison and Policy Section
(202) 307-7297



FIND MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.DEADIVERSION.USDOJ.GOV:

Controlled Substance Schedules
Significant Guidance Documents
DEA Forms and Applications
DEA Laws and Regulations
DEA Mailing Addresses
Electronic Ordering (CSOS)
Electronic Prescribing (EPCS)
Sign up for Email Updates
Drug Disposal
FAQs
Meetings and Events
Publications and Manuals
Registration Support
Reporting

### **EPCS Prescribers**

A practitioner who issues electronic prescriptions for controlled substances (EPCS) must use an electronic prescription application that retains the following information:

- The digitally signed record of the information specified in 21 C.F.R. Part 1306 (21 C.F.R. 1304.06(a)(1))
- The internal audit trail and any auditable event identified by the internal audit as required by 21 C.F.R. § 1311.150 (21 C.F.R. 1304.06(a)(2))
- An institutional practitioner must retain a record of identity proofing and issuance of the two-factor authentication credential, where applicable, as required by 21 C.F.R. § 1311.110 (21 C.F.R. 1304.06(b))
- A copy of any security incident report filed with the Administration pursuant to 21 C.F.R § 1311.150 and § 1311.215 (21 C.F.R. § 1304.06(d))
- An electronic prescription or pharmacy application provider must retain third party audit or certification reports as required by 21 C.F.R § 1311.300 (21 C.F.R. § 1304.06(e))
- An application provider must retain a copy of any notification to the Administration regarding an adverse audit or certification report filed with the Administration on problems identified by the third-party audit or certification as required by 21 C.F.R. § 1311.300 (21 C.F.R. 1304.06(f))
- Unless otherwise specified, records and reports must be retained for two years (21 C.F.R. § 1304.06(g))

#### Maintenance and Detox Prescribers

- Prescription records are required for prescribers who issue controlled substance prescriptions for maintenance or detoxification (21 C.F.R. § 1304.03(c))
- Records of prescription information must be maintained separate from all other required records and readily retrievable (21 C.F.R. § 1304.04(g))
- Practitioners who dispense controlled substances for maintenance and/or detoxification must maintain the same records as any other dispensing practitioner (21 C.F.R. § 1304.22(c))

#### **Inventories**

"Physical Count"

- Must include all controlled substances "on hand" (in possession/under the control of; 21 CFR §1304.11(a))
- Inventory date must reflect the date of the actual inventory
- Maintained in written, typewritten, or printed form at the registered location (21 C.F.R. § 1304.11(a))
- Separate inventories are required for each registered location (21 C.F.R. § 1304.11(a))
- Must be taken at the Beginning of Business (BOB) or Close of Business (COB; 21 C.F.R. § 1304.11(a))
- Separate inventories for each independent activity (21 C.F.R. § 1304.11(a))
- Inventory of all stocks of controlled substances
- On the date you first engage in the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of controlled substances—best if labeled "Initial Inventory"
- If nothing on hand, record "0"



#### **Biennial Inventories**

The biennial inventory is required to be taken on any date within two years of a previous required inventory—best if labeled "Biennial Inventory"

#### **Newly Scheduled Controlled Substances**

- When a controlled substance is newly scheduled or rescheduled, a physical inventory must be taken immediately
- Must be taken at the Beginning of Business or Close of Business

#### DEA Form 222

- The DEA Form 222 is used for the acquisition and distribution of Schedule II controlled substances
- The DEA Form 222 must be filled out completely and accurately
- The signer of the DEA application or renewal is the individual authorized to execute DEA Form 222s
- All others authorized who wish to execute a DEA Form 222 must first obtain a Power of Attorney from the signer
- Power of Attorney authorizing who may execute a DEA Form 222

#### Purchase Records CIII-CV

- Must immediately inventory all Schedule III-V controlled substances when received
- Annotate the date received on the record of receipt

## Dispensing Log/Patient File

Dispensing of controlled substances can be entered in patient chart or can be maintain in a dispensing log with the following information:

- Actual name of controlled substance: form, quantity, strength
- Number of units or volume of finished form dispensed;
- Name, address of the person to whom it was dispensed;
- Date of dispensing

## Transferring Controlled Substances

What to do if you need to transfer controlled substances to another DEA Registrant:

- Must use a DEA Form 222 for CII (21 CFR 1307.11(a)(1)(iii))
- Must use a sales invoice for CIII-CV (21 CFR 1307.11(a)(1)(ii))
- 5% of your yearly total (21 CFR 1307.11(a)(1)(iv))
- If more you must register as a distributor (21 CFR 1307.11(b))



## Theft and Loss Reporting

Loss (Unexplained Disappearance): Any discovered shortage which the practitioner cannot convincingly establish to have been diverted after reasonable review/investigation should generally be considered a loss

- Must report a theft or significant loss to DEA in writing within one business day (21 C.F.R. § 1301.76(b))
- Must complete a DEA Form 106, online, once your investigation is complete (21 C.F.R. § 1301.76(b))
  - Do not use a DEA Form 106 if:
    - You have not previously registered with the DEA;
    - The theft or loss you are reporting is not of a controlled substance; or
    - You want to correct minor inventory shortages
- Registrants are encouraged to immediately report theft and losses to your local law enforcement and state regulatory agency

#### **Destruction of Controlled Substances**

- A DEA Form 41 shall be used to record the destruction of all controlled substances using an on-site method that renders the controlled substances non-retrievable.
- DEA Form 41 shall include the names and signatures of the two employees who witnessed the destruction (21 CFR § 1317.95(d))
- The DEA Form 41 no longer needs to be sent to the Division Office, maintain with your other records
- Exceptions for DEA Form 41:
  - Destruction of a controlled substance dispensed by a practitioner for immediate administration at the
    practitioner's registered location, when the substance is not fully exhausted (i.e. wastage) shall be
    properly recorded in accordance with § 1304.22(c), and such record need not be maintained on a
    Form 41

(21 C.F.R. § 1304.21(e))

• Transfers by registrant to a reverse distributor must be recorded in accordance with § 1304.22(c), and such record need not be maintained on a Form 41 (21 C.F.R. § 1304.22(e))

## Security

- Registrants are required to provide effective controls and procedures to guard against theft and diversion of controlled substances (21 C.F.R. § 1301.71(a))
- Registrants cannot employ anyone who has a felony drug conviction who will have access to controlled substance, without a DEA approved employment waiver (21 C.F.R. § 1301.76(a))
- Practitioners are required to store stocks of CII-CV controlled substances in a securely locked, substantially constructed cabinet (21 C.F.R. 1301.75(b))

## State Regulations

 Consult your state regulating agency for stricter recordkeeping requirements (e.g., some state boards require records be kept for 7 years)

DISCLAIMER: This is an informal guide only. Always refer to current CFR for correct and complete information.