

375 Medical Group Pharmacy News

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY ON PICKING UP PRESCRIPTIONS

Ever pick up prescriptions for a relative or a friend? If so, then the Department of Defense's policy may affect you. Enacted to protect patient privacy, it requires written permission to pick up prescriptions for anyone other than you or your dependent children. Any other person who picks up prescriptions is acting as a designated Patient Representative. This includes a spouse, adult child, friend, or even the babysitter.

Effective Jan 1998, Department of Defense policy directs us to release prescriptions only when a designated Patient Representative can produce:

- 1) a valid photo ID card (of themselves)
- 2) the patient's military ID card or a copy of the same (front and back)
- 3) if you do not have the patient's ID card, you can get a "Statement of Eligibility" from the Patient Administration section in RM E 1123 phone number 256-7723
- 4) a signed statement from the patient authorizing the representative to act on his or her behalf for this purpose.

Parents or legal guardians with a valid photo ID may pick up prescriptions for their own dependent children. The parent or legal guardian may designate a Patient Representative to pick up prescriptions for a dependent child. The Patient Representative must:

- 1) possess a valid photo ID card
- 2) be in possession of the patient's military ID card or a copy of the same (front and back) if over 10 years old
- 3) if you do not have the patient's ID card, you can get a "Statement of Eligibility" from the Patient Administration section in RM E 1123 phone number 256-7723
- 4) have a signed statement from the dependent child's parent or legal guardian authorizing the representative to act on his or her behalf for this purpose.

In a nutshell, your prescription will be released to you alone unless the above requirements are met. As a service to you, the pharmacy developed a 2-sided wallet size card containing legally sufficient authorization statements on each side. This card (shown below) will facilitate compliance with the policy. The front of the card is for adult designated Patient Representatives and the back is for designated representatives for Dependent Children. You may cut out this card and use it or pick up a card at the pharmacy on your next visit. Make sure it is completely filled out, signed, and dated. The Expiration Dates should be at least one year in duration. Since one member within a family usually picks up prescriptions, one card should be sufficient for each family. This policy will be strictly enforced 90 days after publication of this article.

We realize this policy may be inconvenient but your privacy is something we want to protect. Please help us server you better.

KENNETH R. RUSSELL, Maj, USAF, BSC
Pharmacy Flight Commander

Front

Authorization for Release of Medications
Valid Only with Patients I.D. Card (or copy of I.D. card)

I _____ hereby authorize
(Print Name)

_____ to pick up my
(Print Name)

prescriptions at Scott AFB Pharmacy.

Signature Date

Back

I _____ hereby authorize
(Print Name)

_____ to pick up prescriptions
(Print Name)

at Scott AFB Pharmacy for the following **minor(s)**

(Print Name or Child)

(Print Name or Child)

Signature of parent or legal guardian Expiration Date