

**October  
2014**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH/ DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUPPORTS DIVISION  
HEALTH ALERT**

**Drugs Containing Hydrocodone**

October 29, 2014

The DEA final rule to change Hydrocodone combination drugs from Schedule III to the more restrictive Schedule II took effect on **October 6, 2014**. New Mexico DD Waiver agency nurses need to be familiar with these changes, the reasons why this occurred and the impact this rule will have on prescribing and refill practices. Please review this document, share it within your organization and use it as a reference for technical assistance with teams and families as needed.

After October 6, 2014, prescriptions for medicines with Hydrocodone will have to either be written or submitted through an e-prescribing system. Prescriptions for medications with Hydrocodone cannot be phoned or faxed into the pharmacy.

New prescriptions for Hydrocodone will not have refills. Refills (up to 5) will be valid only if the original prescription was written prior to October 6 and is filled before April 8, 2015. However, some pharmacy dispensing software products will not be able to process existing refills starting on Oct. 6, so prescribers should be prepared to work with pharmacists to supply new prescriptions when necessary. Nurses should be prepared to inform families and Direct Support Professionals that this could occur and to reorder medications in a timely manner.

The rule change was driven by the high potential for abuse of Hydrocodone combination drugs and the alarming increase in deaths from prescription drug overdoses. New Mexico had the second highest drug overdose death rate in the nation in 2011, and deaths involving prescription drugs now outnumber those involving illicit drugs by 60%.

Some doctors may decide to change to another Schedule III narcotic such as acetaminophen with codeine for pain management. Other effective alternatives could include prescription nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), or even combinations of over-the-counter products such as the NSAID ibuprofen with acetaminophen.

If the client has taken Hydrocodone for several weeks or longer, do not stop the medication without talking to the prescribing doctor. If Hydrocodone is suddenly stopped, withdrawal symptoms may be experienced. The doctor will probably decrease the dose gradually.

There are no changes in the requirements for storage of these drugs.

Please note that Hydrocodone is an ingredient in combination products that may be used for pain management or treatment of cough and congestion due to acute respiratory infection. A list of these combination products is attached as a resource for your nursing practice. Additional references are also included at the end of the document.

## **Brand names of combination products containing Hydrocodone**

- Allay® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Alor® (containing Aspirin, Hydrocodone)
- Anexsia® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Anolor DH5® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Atuss HD® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- Azdone® (containing Aspirin, Hydrocodone)
- Baltussin HC® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- Bancap HC® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Ceta Plus® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Codiclear DH® (containing Guaifenesin, Hydrocodone)
- Co-Gesic® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Damason-P® (containing Aspirin, Hydrocodone)
- Dolacet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Dolagesic® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Dolorex Forte® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Donatussin MAX® (containing Carbinoxamine, Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- DuoCet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Endacof XP® (containing Guaifenesin, Hydrocodone)
- EndaCof-Plus® (containing Dexchlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- Entuss® (containing Guaifenesin, Hydrocodone)
- Histinex HC® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- Hycet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Hycodan® (containing Homatropine, Hydrocodone)
- Hycomed® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Hycomine Compound® (containing Acetaminophen, Caffeine, Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- Hycotuss® (containing Guaifenesin, Hydrocodone)
- Hydrocet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Hydrogesic® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Hydromet® (containing Homatropine, Hydrocodone)
- Hy-Phen® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Ibudone® (containing Hydrocodone, Ibuprofen)
- Kwelcof® (containing Guaifenesin, Hydrocodone)
- Liquicet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Lorcet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Lorcet Plus® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Lortab® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Lortuss HC® (containing Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- Margesic-H® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)

- Maxidone® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Norco® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Oncet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Panacet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Panasal® (containing Aspirin, Hydrocodone)
- Panlor® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Polygesic® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Procet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- *Reprexain® (containing Hydrocodone, Ibuprofen)*
- *Rezira® (containing Hydrocodone, Pseudoephedrine)*
- *Stagesic® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)*
- *T-Gesic® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)*
- *TussiCaps® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone)*
- *Tussionex® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone)*
- *Ugesic® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)*
- *Vanacet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)*
- Vanex-HD® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone, Phenylephrine)
- Vendone® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Vicodin® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Vicodin ES® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Vicodin HP® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Vicoprofen® (containing Hydrocodone, Ibuprofen)
- Vidone® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Vituz® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone)
- Xodol® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Zamicet® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Zolvit® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)
- Zutripro® (containing Chlorpheniramine, Hydrocodone, Pseudoephedrine)
- Zydone® (containing Acetaminophen, Hydrocodone)

**Other names**

Dihydrocodeinone

## References

American Academy of Family Physicians, "How Will Rescheduling of Hydrocodone ComboProducts Affect You, Your Patients? What Family Physicians Need to Know About the Change", AAFP News, September 17, 2014. Accessed at:

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American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, "Hydrocodone", Medline Plus, last revised 5/15/13; accessed at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginfo/meds/a601006.html>

New Mexico Department of Health, "Controlled Substance Prescriptions in New Mexico, 2006-2013"; New Mexico Epidemiology Report, Volume 2014, Number 7, August 22, 2014, accessed at: <http://nmhealth.org/publication/view/newsletter/470/>

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