

WASHINGTON STATE PHARMACY QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION

*Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy
and Drug Law Compliance.*

Disciplinary Action Reporting Time Frame (CR-103P) Filing

On January 23, 2026, the Washington State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission (Commission) filed a rules adoption package (CR-103P) under [Washington State Register 26-04-018](#) amending a section of rule,

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-945-231 Reporting Disciplinary Action, to clarify the time frame for pharmaceutical firms to report disciplinary action to the Commission. The rule took effect on February 23, 2026.

Veterinary Prescription FAQ

At the February business meeting, the Commission approved the following frequently asked questions (FAQs) regarding prescriptions written by veterinarians. This FAQ is also on the Commission's [FAQ web page](#).

Question: Is a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration number required for a prescription written by a veterinarian licensed in Washington State for a medication that is not a controlled substance (CS)?

[Access the National
Pharmacy Compliance News](#)

*A Service of the National
Association of Boards of Pharmacy
Foundation® (NABPF®)*



Veterinary Prescription FAQ

(cont)

Answer: No. A DEA registration number is not required on a valid and lawful prescription written by a licensed veterinarian for a medication that is not a CS. Additionally, National Provider Identifier numbers are not required on valid and lawful veterinary prescriptions. Pharmacists who receive prescriptions from veterinarians for non-CS are encouraged to review [WAC 246-945-010](#) and [WAC 246-945-011](#) for more information related to prescription minimum requirements and prescription validity, respectively.

The Commission understands pharmacists may need to contact veterinary prescribers to verify the validity of paper prescriptions written for both non-CS and CS medications.

Because this verification process can, at times, be time-consuming for both pharmacists and prescribing veterinarians, the Commission recommends the following best practices.

For veterinary prescribers:

- Prescribe via electronic means when possible.
- Include the prescriber's state license number on non-controlled prescriptions.

For pharmacists:

Use the Washington State Department of Health's (DOH's) [Provider Credential Search](#) to verify that the provided state license number matches the name of the veterinary prescriber.

Nonresident Pharmacy: List of Approved Inspection Programs Directive

At the February 2026 business meeting, the Commission approved the *Nonresident Pharmacy: List of Approved Inspection Programs*. There were no changes to the list of approved inspection programs previously approved by the Commission in October 2025. The directive is located on the Commission's [Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines](#) web page.

A Reminder From Washington's PMP

In a review of all pharmacies that upload prescription data to the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Clearinghouse, the PMP found that approximately 25% of pharmacies are not submitting the date a prescription is sold (dispensed). Pharmacies that dispense CS are required to report three specific and distinct dates to the PMP ([WAC 246-470-030](#) and [WAC 246-470-010](#)):

- 1) the date of dispensing (sold date);
- 2) the prescription issue date (written date); and
- 3) the prescription number and fill date (fill date).

It may be necessary for pharmacies to contact their software vendors to ensure that their systems' date fields have been updated to allow for reporting of the required information to the PMP.

Questions regarding this requirement can be addressed by contacting the PMP at 360/236-4869 or prescriptionmonitoring@doh.wa.gov.

Scammers Continue to Target Licensees

Licensees continue to report being victimized by scam callers or emailers claiming to represent the Commission or another government agency. Neither DOH nor the Commission will contact licensees via telephone or email to threaten a credential holder. If you question the validity of the call or email, please contact the Commission directly at 360/236-4946.

Techniques used by these individuals include:

- A caller claims a licensee is under investigation by the Commission, DOH, DEA, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), or another government agency. In some cases, the caller also warns of discipline unless the licensee pays a “fine.”

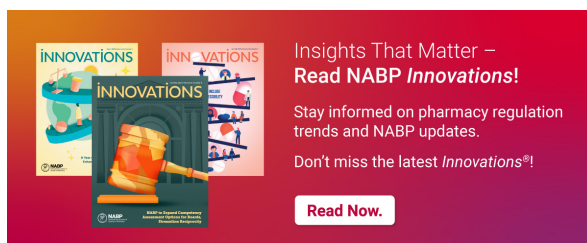
- A caller warns a licensee not to report the call to anyone “or else you will jeopardize the investigation.”
- A caller requests a licensee’s mobile phone number.
- A caller gives a fake call-back number.
- A caller spoofs the Commission’s phone number. This happens when your caller ID screen falsely shows that an incoming call is from the Commission.
- **New:** A caller or emailer requires the licensee to download an application on their phone to view a letter.

These calls are scams! In many cases, callers are attempting to extort money or elicit sensitive information – eg, license numbers, DEA registration numbers – from licensees.

What can you do to protect yourself?

Licensee security is important to the Commission. Be aware of these tips:

- If you have any doubts or questions about someone claiming to represent the Commission, telephone the Commission at 360/236-4946.
- If you have any doubts or questions about someone claiming to represent DEA or the FBI, report the call to [DEA’s Extortion Scam reporting program](#) or the [FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center](#).
- If a scam caller’s phone number appears to be a Commission phone number, report the scam using the [Federal Communications Commission’s consumer complaint form](#).



Insights That Matter –
Read NABP *Innovations*!

Stay informed on pharmacy regulation trends and NABP updates.
Don't miss the latest *Innovations*®!

[Read Now.](#)

The Washington State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission News is published by the Washington State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation® (NABPF®) to promote compliance of pharmacy and drug law. The opinions and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or policies of NABPF or the Board unless expressly so stated.

Marlee O’Neill - State News Editor

Lemrey “Al” Carter, PharmD, MS, RPh - National News Editor & Executive Editor

Megan Pellegrini - Publications and Editorial Manager

Department of Health | PO Box 47852 | Olympia, WA 98504-7852 | www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNewReneworUpdate/PharmacyCommission