

Surescripts Participant Bulletin	
Date:	October 31, 2013
Title:	Georgia EPCS-Enabled Physician and Pharmacy Application Registration Procedure
Purpose:	To inform physician and pharmacy application vendors or developers about the state-mandated procedure that must be followed if they would like their users in Georgia to be able to transmit or receive electronic prescriptions for controlled substances (EPCS) in the state.
DETAILS	
Description	<p>Stakeholder discussions with the Georgia Drugs and Narcotic Agency (GDNA) have resulted in the adoption of the following procedure that the GDNA says <u>must</u> be followed should participants want to enable their users in Georgia to engage in the transmission or receipt of EPCSs in the state:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All applications, both those utilized by pharmacies and those utilized by prescribers, must have submitted on their behalf their Part 1311 EPCS audit reports to the GDNA. 2. GDNA will not conduct an independent review or certification of these applications but will accept them at face value as verification of their successful Part 1311 EPCS audits. 3. GDNA will post either on its or the Board of Pharmacy's website a listing of all EPCS-approved applications. 4. Pharmacies will not be required to maintain any audit reports in their files. GDNA will instead be the data collector and be responsible for maintaining the list of approved applications as described above. 5. Pharmacy and prescriber application vendors or developers can activate electronic transmission of controlled substance prescriptions as soon as they have emailed their Part 1311 EPCS audit reports to Mr. Rick Allen, Director, Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency at rallen@gdna.ga.gov. <p>It is recommended when a vendor or developer submits its Part 1311 EPCS audit report to the GDNA it should indicate in the cover email the name, address, and telephone number for the appropriate company contact person and tell the GDNA whether the audit is for a physician or pharmacy application. A brief description of the vendor or developer's products and services would also likely be helpful to the GDNA. This should be done both for initial EPCS audits as well as the required biennial renewal audits.</p> <p>Finally, it is requested that participants submitting Part 1311 EPCS audit reports to the GDNA as described above kindly notify Surescripts' Regulatory Affairs at the address below when they do so that Surescripts will know which participants intend to activate EPCS communications in Georgia.</p>

CALL TO ACTION

Participant Action(s):

- EPCS certified and audited physician and pharmacy vendors or developers should forward copies of their Part 1311 EPCS audit reports to the GDNA at their earliest convenience should they wish to enable their end-users to engage in EPCS communications in the state of Georgia.
- Participants should notify Surescripts' Regulatory Affairs Office at Ken Whittemore's e-mail address below when this task has been completed so that Surescripts will know which participants intend to activate EPCS communications in Georgia.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact Surescripts with questions:

- Ken Whittemore, Jr., Senior VP, Professional & Regulatory Affairs at: ken.whittemore@surescripts.com or (703) 921-2114