



## Department of Health

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

**HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.**  
Commissioner

**SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.**  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

June 15, 2017


Dear Practitioners and Pharmacists:

By a letter dated March 2, 2017, I granted a blanket waiver of the electronic prescribing requirements of Public Health Law (PHL) § 281 and Education Law § 6810, for nursing homes and residential health care facilities. This waiver remains effective until October 31, 2017.

I recognize that nursing homes and residential health care facilities anticipate full compliance to take longer than this period. Therefore, pursuant to my authority in PHL § 281(3), I intend to grant a renewal of the blanket waiver on or before October 31, 2017, which would be effective until October 31, 2018.

Practitioners who issue prescriptions to residents in nursing homes and residential health care facilities and who anticipate being unable to comply with the electronic prescribing mandate by October 31, 2018, should apply for an individual waiver from electronic prescribing, pursuant to PHL § 281, in advance of such date.

Sincerely,

  
Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D.  
Commissioner of Health