



On October 1, 2008 , the CMS regulation requiring the use of tamper-resistant printing methods or prescription pads for outpatient drugs prescribed to Medicaid beneficiaries went into effect, requiring the use of at least one feature in the following categories that are defined as "tamper-resistant" - that is, designed to prevent:

- unauthorized copying of a prescription form,
- erasure or modification of information written by a prescriber,
- or use of counterfeit prescription forms.

The HIMSS Electronic Health Record Association, comprised of more than 40 leading companies that provide EHRs to hospitals and physicians' practices across the US, supports tamper-resistant printed prescriptions generated by EHRs and e-prescribing systems as mandated by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

The Association will continue to provide input to policymakers and education to its members to ensure that our customers - the vast majority of healthcare provider organizations and physicians using EHRs today - are well-served by HIT-related regulations and the systems that support them.

More information can be found at:

- CMS letter to state Medicaid directors --
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SMDL/downloads/SMD081707.pdf>
- CMS FAQ --
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/DeficitReductionAct/Downloads/MIPTRPFAQs9122007.pdf>
- CMS letter to state policymakers --
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/DeficitReductionAct/Downloads/Tamper.pdf>