

ADVISORY NOTICE 1

Changes to pharmacy dispensing requirements when eRx are temporarily delayed in reaching the NZePS broker and pharmacy receives a 'BUS002 error message'

a. Controlled Drug barcoded prescriptions (CD eRx)

For Class A and B controlled drugs

A triplicate form for Class A or B controlled drugs is no longer required if a CD eRx is temporarily not able to be downloaded from NZePS, as long as the following are met:

- The barcode identifier (SCID) **MUST** be used at the point of dispensing (i.e. scanned, barcode details manually entered) AND
- the prescription **MUST** be physically signed in the prescriber's own handwriting.

If, after using the barcode, pharmacy receives a 'BUS002 error message' then continue to dispense manually. This creates a pharmacy eRx SCID which is immediately linked to the original prescriber eRx SCID.

The original eRx will never be available for download again. This is why it is important to always use the eRx SCID.

If the same CD eRx SCID is used again at the pharmacy, or at another pharmacy, the pharmacy will receive the message "the prescription has already been dispensed".

Any eRx item that has been dispensed, using the eRx SCID, cannot be dispensed again.

Therefore, despite receiving an error message after using the barcode at the point of dispensing, a triplicate form is **not** required.

For Tonic pharmacy BUS002 Errors - once the manual dispensing process is completed the dispenser must select **YES** to link the eRx SCID to the original prescriber eRx SCID.

For RxOne pharmacy - once the manual dispensing process is completed the eRx SCID will automatically link to the original prescriber eRx SCID when completing the dispensing.

For Class C controlled drugs (NOT exempt or partially exempt)

The following must be met:

- The barcode identifier (SCID) **MUST** be used at the point of dispensing (i.e. scanned, or barcode details manually entered) AND
- The prescription **MUST** be physically signed in the prescriber's own handwriting.

NOTE: Signature exempt prescriptions do **NOT** apply to any CDs, with the exception of Class C (exempt or partially exempt controlled drugs).

b. For ‘Signature Exempt’ barcoded prescriptions (eRxs)

The original is no longer required if a ‘Signature Exempt’ barcoded prescription is temporarily not able to be downloaded from NZePS, as long as the following is met:

- The barcode identifier (SCID) **MUST** be used at the point of dispensing (i.e. scanned, barcode details manually entered).

NOTE: Signature exempt prescriptions **ONLY** apply to non-controlled drugs and Class C controlled drugs (exempt or partially exempt).

ADVISORY NOTICE 2

Classes of Controlled Drugs printing on separate pages

All vendors are currently enhancing their systems to automatically print the different classes of Controlled Drugs on separate pages i.e. Class A, Class B and Class C (excluding Class C exempt or partially exempt drugs).

Until all vendors have completed this enhancement if a Class A, B or C (NOT exempt or partially exempt) controlled drug appears on the same prescription form as a non-controlled drug and/or a Class C (exempt or partially exempt) controlled drug the medicines can be dispensed BUT the prescription must be treated as a CD prescription.

- The barcode identifier (SCID) **MUST** be used at the point of dispensing (i.e. scanned, or barcode details manually entered) AND
- The prescription **MUST** be physically signed in the prescriber’s own handwriting.

The above is required to meet the requirements for a legal prescription for Class A, B or C (NOT exempt or partially exempt) controlled drugs under the Misuse of Drugs Act.