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Information to Pharmacies Regarding Optometrist TPA Certification

The Division of Consumer Affairs, in conjunction with the Board of Pharmacy, is providing the following information concerning Doctors of Optometry (O.D.), Optometrists, and the medication prescriptive authority granted to Optometrists with a Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agent (TPA) Certification, in order to assist pharmacists and pharmacy personnel in filling prescription issued by Optometrists:

- If an Optometrist has a TPA Certification number that begins with the prefix “27TO”, the Optometrist is certified to prescribe topical pharmaceutical agents ONLY;
- If an Optometrist has a TPA Certification number that begins with the prefix “27OM”, the Optometrist is certified to prescribe oral medications AND topical pharmaceutical agents;

In addition, if an Optometrist has a D.E.A. Registration number, the Optometrist is authorized to prescribe Schedule III, IV and V Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS).

This information shall not supersede a pharmacist’s professional responsibility to verify a prescription with the prescriber if, in the pharmacist’s professional judgment, such verification is warranted.