**Waiver for Implementation of Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances**

Section 195.550, RSMo requires that prescriptions for Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substances be prescribed electronically unless one of the statutory exceptions are met. This was set to be effective on January 1, 2021. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services will be filing proposed and emergency rules detailing how practitioners may request a waiver on December 15, 2020. Emergency Rule 19 CSR 30-1.080 Electronic Prescribing Waiver will go into effect on December 30, 2020.

The Department has issued a temporary waiver of electronic prescribing requirements until March 31, 2021. A copy of that waiver may be found on the BNDD website <https://health.mo.gov/safety/bndd>.

Practitioners who think they may need a waiver from electronic prescribing requirements due to economic hardship, technological limitations, or other exceptional circumstances are encouraged to apply for waivers on or after January 1, 2020. Waiver requests will be processed in the order in which they are received.

**Implementation Plan:**

Beginning January 1, 2021, practitioners who would like to apply for a waiver from the Missouri Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, may visit the Bureau’s website at <https://health.mo.gov/safety/bndd>.

On or before December 30, 2020, there will be a link to click on called Electronic Prescribing Waivers.

Applicants may click on this link. It will provide a one-page, fill-in-the blank application that is a fillable PDF form. The applications must be emailed to [BNDDRxWaiver@health.mo.gov](mailto:BNDDRxWaiver@health.mo.gov).

The BNDD will respond to the applicants with written waivers or denials. The waivers or denials will be emailed back to the applicant at the address the provided on the application form. Waivers will be effective for one year from the date issued.

This process is expected to be in place for the duration of the 2021 calendar year. The Department will be working on amending the annual BNDD Registration application that practitioners submit annually. The waiver questions will be added to the annual application and granted with annual registrations. More details on the implementation of that change will come at a future time.