

Health Information Compliance Alert

Know E-Prescribing Regs

If an eligible professional has an e-prescribing system that meets the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' criteria, but the pharmacy the patient wants to use can't receive the prescription (either because they don't have an e-prescribing system or their system is down), your practice can report code G8446, "which basically states that the pharmacy was unable to receive the electronic prescription," said **Daniel Green, MD**, of CMS's Office of Clinical Standards and Quality during a June 17 Open Door Forum.

If your pharmacy doesn't participate but has a system allowing it to convert your e-prescription into a fax (which some pharmacies can do), you should report the G code that shows that you did electronically prescribe (such as G8443, All prescriptions created during the encounter were generated using a qualified e-prescribing system), because from your practice's perspective, your e-prescription was successful, even if the pharma-