

prescriptions to be legible; providing that certain penalties do not apply to a violation of this Act; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, in conjunction with certain other groups, to convene a certain workgroup to study the legibility of prescriptions and report to certain committees on or before a certain date in a certain manner on the recommendations of the workgroup; requiring the study to include certain items; and generally relating to legibility of prescriptions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health – General

Section 21-220 and 21-1215

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health – General

21-220.

(a) A drug that is intended for use by human beings and is in any of the following classifications may be dispensed by a pharmacist only on a written or oral prescription from a health practitioner authorized by law to prescribe the drug:

(1) A habit-forming drug to which § 21-218(b)(1) of this subtitle applies.

(2) A drug that because of its toxicity or other potentiality for harmful effect, the method of its use, or the collateral measures necessary to its use, is not safe for use except under the supervision of a health practitioner who is authorized by law to administer such a drug.

(3) A drug that is limited by an approved application under § 355 of the federal act or § 21-223 of this subtitle to use under the professional supervision of a health practitioner authorized by law to administer such a drug.

(b) (1) A prescription may be written or oral. However, a pharmacist may not dispense a drug on an oral prescription unless the pharmacist promptly writes out and files the prescription.

(2) A prescription for a controlled dangerous substance within the meaning of Title 5 of the Criminal Law Article may not be written on a preprinted prescription form that states the name, quantity, or strength of the controlled dangerous substance.

(3) When a prescription is written, a separate prescription form is required for each controlled dangerous substance. If a pharmacist is otherwise satisfied that a prescription is valid the pharmacist may fill the prescription if the pharmacist promptly writes out and files a prescription for each substance and also files the original prescription.