

# CMS / NIST HIPAA Security Rule

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#### Surescripts Overview

- Surescripts is the result of a 2008 merger between the country's two leading health information networks: RxHub and SureScripts.
- Surescripts gives healthcare providers:
  - Secure, electronic access to prescription information that can save their patients' lives,
  - Improve efficiency and reduce the cost of healthcare for all.
- Available during emergencies or routine care, the Surescripts network is used every day by thousands of physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and other prescribers across all 50 states.
- The Surescripts network connects these prescribers to all of the nation's major chain pharmacies, the nation's leading payers and independent pharmacies nationwide using approved national standards such as NCPDP and ANSI X12N

#### Founders:













#### Definition of E-Prescribing

**Prescription Benefit** 

**Prescription History** 

**Prescription Routing** 

Improved Safety Reduced Cost Increased Efficiency Electronic prescribing or "e-prescribing" is a way of prescribing that is paperless and more informed. More specifically, it is when a physician uses a computer or hand held device with software that has been tested and certified to:

- 1. With a patient's consent, electronically access that patient's prescription benefit.
- 2. With a patient's consent, electronically access that patient's prescription history.
- 3. Electronically route the prescription to the patient's choice of pharmacy. When the patient runs out of refills, their pharmacist can also electronically send a renewal request to the physician office for approval.



# E-Prescribing Readiness

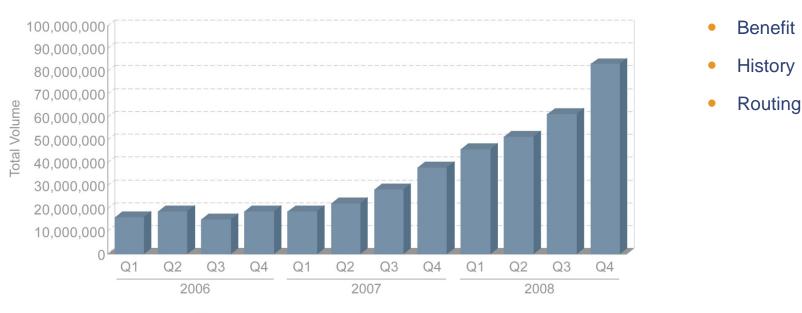


- ✓ National infrastructure is established and secure
- ✓ Transaction standards are approved and have been used for 10 years.
- ✓ All states approved for e-prescribing
- ✓ Technology Vendors are certified on transactions and data usage
- ✓ Incentive plans are available
- ✓ Return On Investment is proven

## Electronic prescribing use



#### Total E-Prescribing Message Volume



Source: Surescripts and The 2008 National Progress Report on E-Prescribing (www.surescripts.com/report)

- E-prescribing message volume doubled between 2007 and 2008 to over 240 million.
- The number of e-prescribing messages between 2006 and 2008 totaled nearly half a billion.



### E-prescribing and security

- The current e-prescribing networks are relatively mature and secure
- Network model requires chain of trust agreements through BAs and contracts
- Current issue involves the number of external audits and requests for information
- Several industry initiatives to establish common agreements
  - HIPAA
  - EHNAC
  - HITRUST
  - ISO 27000



### **E-Prescribing of Controlled Medications**

- DEA Proposed Rule was good but onerous on some fronts
  - Refer to multiple comments made by industry
- Rules and Processes for E-Prescribing Controlled Substances will effectively set the bar for all medications – one process for all
- Can become a barrier to adoption and utilization if too stringent need to strike appropriate balance between needs of law enforcement and safe and efficient delivery of health care
- E-Prescribing presents unique opportunities to enhance law enforcement efforts through increased surveillance, prompt access to data, audit trails, etc.



# Thank you.

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