

MCMS/7<sup>th</sup> District Branch Physicians and Staffs-

Governor Cuomo signed the e-prescribing bill which eliminates the need to notify DOH each time a paper prescription is issued. See details below.

Nancy

**Governor Signs Bill to Reduce Reporting Burdens When A Physician Issues Paper Prescription**

Governor Cuomo has signed legislation (S.6779, Hannon/A.9335,Gottfried) strongly supported by MSSNY which eliminates the requirement for a physician to report a litany of information to a DOH website when he/she issues a paper prescription. Instead, effective immediately, the physician must make a notation in the patient's medical record that a paper/oral/fax prescription was issued. Upon learning that the bill was signed into law, MSSNY President, Malcolm Reid, MD issued the following statement: "We are pleased that Governor Cuomo has signed into law legislation to reduce the reporting burdens in those situations when a physician must issue a paper prescription. We thank Senator Hannon and Assemblyman Gottfried for championing this legislation. We look forward to working with the Governor and the Legislature to address other obstacles related to e-prescribing that interfere with patients timely receiving needed medications."

At the same time, the Governor vetoed two other bills also designed to address burdens associated with e-prescribing:

- 9334/S.6778 – would have continued to permit oral prescriptions for nursing home residents. The Governor's veto message noted that a waiver had previously been granted to permit such oral prescriptions, and that this waiver will now be extended until October 31, 2017.
- 9837/S.7334 – to permit sending of an e-prescription to a secure centralized site that can be downloaded by the pharmacy filling the prescription. The Governor's veto message noted that the bill would "create significant risk of data breaches and unauthorized access to confidential information". Instead, the Governor noted that he "is looking closely at a separate bill" (supported by MSSNY) that would permit a pharmacy to transfer an e-prescription to another pharmacy, which "would more directly and safely address the concern addressed by this bill".

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