



## FACT SHEET FOR PHARMACIES AND PHARMACISTS

### Gabapentin Schedule V Controlled Substance

September 2025

**House Bill (HB) 41: Generally revise dangerous drug schedule; adding gabapentin to the drugs listed in Schedule V controlled substances; effective October 1, 2025.**

This fact sheet is intended for Montana licensed pharmacies and pharmacists regarding the addition of gabapentin to the list of Schedule V controlled substances in Montana, pursuant to [HB 41](#), the new law that passed in the 2025 Legislative Session, effective on October 1, 2025.

As a Schedule V controlled substance, gabapentin will have increased security, recordkeeping, and Montana Prescription Drug Registry (MPDR) reporting requirements for pharmacies.

#### Security for Gabapentin Prescriptions

- Gabapentin prescriptions must be written with the prescribers Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) number on the prescription. In addition, the prescription:
  - Can only be dispensed by in-state or out-of-state pharmacies licensed by the Montana Board of Pharmacy with a dangerous drug endorsement on the pharmacy license.
  - May only be transferred to another pharmacy one time.
  - Expires 6 months after the written date and has a maximum of 5 refills.
  - See [Administrative Rules of Montana \(ARM\) 24.174.831](#).
- As with other controlled substances, **positive identification** of the recipient must be made prior to dispensing gabapentin, pursuant to [37-7-410, Montana Code Annotated \(MCA\)](#), and [ARM 24.174.842](#).

#### Recordkeeping

- Initial inventory of gabapentin must be completed on October 1, 2025, and included in every biennial inventory after October 1, 2025.
- Gabapentin prescription records must be included with other Scheduled III-V controlled substances (separate from non-controlled medications), may be electronically stored in a readily retrievable format, and must be kept for at least 2 years.

#### MPDR Reporting

- Gabapentin prescriptions dispensed to patients from Montana licensed community pharmacies, institutional pharmacies, or out-of-state mail order pharmacies must be reported to the MPDR pursuant to [ARM 27.174.1702](#).

*[Frequently Asked Questions on next page.]*

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

**When do these security, recordkeeping, and MPDR reporting requirements for gabapentin as a Schedule V controlled substance take effect?**

On or before October 1, 2025.

**How do gabapentin prescriptions need to be written on or after October 1, 2025?**

As of October 1, 2025, all gabapentin prescriptions written and dispensed for Montana patients must comply with DEA requirements for writing and dispensing Schedule V controlled substance prescription orders ([ARM 24.174.840](#)).

**What happens to gabapentin prescriptions with refills on or after October 1, 2025?**

If the original gabapentin prescription written prior to October 1, 2025, meets all the security, refill, and recordkeeping requirements, it may be dispensed and the refill should be reported to the MPDR. If not, a new gabapentin prescription must be obtained.

### **RESOURCES**

- [HB 41, Generally Revise Dangerous Drug Schedule](#)
- [50-32-232, MCA, Specific Dangerous Drugs Included in Schedule V](#) [This will be updated with HB 41 amendments]
- [37-7-410, MCA, Positive Identification Required](#)
- [ARM 24.174.842 Positive Identification For Controlled Substance Prescriptions](#)
- [DEA Pharmacist's Manual 2022](#)
- [MPDR Data Submission Overview](#)
- [Montana Prescription Drug Registry](#) – ([www.mpdr.mt.gov](http://www.mpdr.mt.gov))
- [Montana Board of Pharmacy](#) – ([www.pharmacy.mt.gov](http://www.pharmacy.mt.gov))

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

- For additional information, contact the Montana Board of Pharmacy at (406) 841-2371 or [dlibsdpdpha@mt.gov](mailto:dlibsdpdpha@mt.gov), or the MPDR Program at (406) 841-2240 or [dlibsdpdmpdr@mt.gov](mailto:dlibsdpdmpdr@mt.gov).