



FACT SHEET FOR PRESCRIBERS AND PATIENTS

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 prescribers and their patients on adding 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 in Montana, gabapentin will have increased security requirements and will be reported by pharmacies to the Montana Prescription Drug Registry (MPDR).

- **Security for Gabapentin Schedule V Prescriptions:**
 - Must be written by a prescriber with a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration.
 - Must include the patient's full name and address, and the prescribing practitioner's full name, address, and DEA registration number on the prescription, pursuant to [Administrative Rules of Montana \(ARM\) 24.174.831](#).
 - Expires 6 months after the written date and has a maximum of 5 refills.
 - Electronic prescriptions must comply with DEA electronic prescribing of controlled substances requirements.
 - As with other controlled substances, **positive identification** of the recipient will be required by pharmacies when the prescription is picked up, pursuant to [37-7-410, Montana Code Annotated \(MCA\)](#), and [ARM 24.174.842](#).
- **MPDR Reporting:** Prescriptions dispensed from Montana-licensed pharmacies (in-state and out-of-state) will be reported to the MPDR and will appear on a patient's MPDR medication history.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

When do these security and reporting requirements for gabapentin 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 must comply with DEA requirements for issuing a Schedule V controlled substance prescription in writing/hard copy, by telephone, or electronically printed or transmitted ([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 and refill requirements, it may be dispensed. If not, a new gabapentin prescription is required.

Can I dispense gabapentin if I have a Medical Practitioner Dispenser registration on or after October 1, 2025?

No, controlled substances are not authorized to be dispensed from a prescriber who has a Medical Practitioner Dispenser registration from the Board of Pharmacy, pursuant to [37-2-104, MCA](#).

RESOURCES

- [DEA Practitioner's Manual 2023](#)
- [Montana Prescription Drug Registry](#) – (www.mpdrr.mt.gov)
- [Montana Board of Pharmacy](#) – (www.pharmacy.mt.gov)