

Requirements for Prescribing Controlled Substances via Telehealth During COVID-19

Under the Federal Public Health Emergency exception¹ and pursuant to an emergency regulation passed by the Georgia medical board², DEA-registered practitioners may issue prescriptions for controlled substances to patients without first conducting an in-person medical evaluation, provided **all** of the following conditions are met:

- The prescription is issued for a legitimate medical purpose by a practitioner acting in the usual course of his/her professional practice;
- The telemedicine communication is conducted using an audio-visual, real-time, two-way interactive communication system;
- The practitioner is acting in accordance with applicable Federal and State law.

The practitioner may issue the prescription using any methods of prescribing currently available and in the manner set forth in the DEA regulations. The practitioner may issue a prescription:

- Electronically (for schedules II-V drugs),
- By calling in an emergency schedule II prescription to the pharmacy, or
- By calling in a schedule III-V prescription to the pharmacy

¹ <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/coronavirus.html>

² <https://medicalboard.georgia.gov/document/document/updatecovid-19pdf-1/download>