



New Rules for Prescription Medication: Hydrocodone/HCP's **What does this mean for you as the patient?**

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency has published its final rule that places a more-restrictive classification on hydrocodone combination products (HCP). Hydrocodone, the most prescribed drug in the U.S. has been reclassified to a Schedule II category. This rule will take effect on October 6, 2014.

The purpose of this change is to minimize the misuse of the drug's recreational purposes while ensuring that patients with severe pain still have reasonable access to the amount of drug needed to control their pain.

What does this mean for the patient?

The most important distinction for the patient is that you will need to bring a **physical prescription** to the pharmacy and you will be required to pick up that prescription at the doctor's office. Under **NO** circumstances can the physician call or fax in a prescription to the pharmacy.

Therefore Plano Orthopedics will NO LONGER be able to call or fax in a prescription for Hydrocodone/HCP type prescriptions. Plano Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center will require you to contact your physician's office to obtain a HAND WRITTEN PRESCRIPTION to physically take to your pharmacy for the medication to be dispensed.

Should you have additional questions feel free to visit:

http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/fed_regs/rules/2014/fr0227.htm or
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-08-22/pdf/2014-19922.pdf>