



Diversion News: April 2025

DEA Holds Medical Practitioners Accountable

DEA is charged with protecting the safety and health of the community by ensuring that medical practitioners adhere to the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

In the last two months, the Diversion Section within the Office of Chief Counsel issued Immediate Suspension Orders (ISO) and Orders to Show Cause (OTSC) to more than 20 medical practitioners.



Charges include improperly prescribing controlled substances to patients, one of whom died of a drug overdose; filling numerous suspicious prescriptions; over-prescribing opioids; and other alleged violations. [Final orders](#) from the DEA Administrator are ultimately published in the Federal Register.

If the DEA finds a registrant has violated the CSA, it may issue an OTSC or ISO. These orders are collectively known as administrative actions.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Announced



The next DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at locations across the country.

On Take Back Day, communities throughout the U.S. can drop off unwanted and expired medications at locations in their area.

Keep abreast of the latest information at <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday> on locations near you and ways you can make a difference and prevent drug misuse before it starts.

Telemedicine Effective Dates Pushed to End of the Year

The final rule delays the effective date of Audio Only Buprenorphine and VA Telemedicine Exemption to December 31, 2025. Both rules had an original effective date of February 18, 2025.

The rules amend regulations to allow DEA-registered practitioners to prescribe schedule III-V controlled substances for the treatment of opioid use disorder via a telemedicine encounter, including an audio-only telemedicine encounter; and the Department of Veterans Affairs practitioners to prescribe schedule II-V controlled substances via telemedicine to patients previously seen in person by another VA provider.

Read the final rule in the [Federal Register](#).



Drug Traffickers Creating Fake Pills

A fake pill operation can produce millions of fake pills, putting unsuspecting individuals at risk. Drug traffickers use pill presses to press fentanyl into pills, punches, and dies to imprint markings and logos onto those pills, producing pills that look like legitimate

prescription medication — such as oxycodone, Xanax, and Adderall — when those pills contain fentanyl, methamphetamine, and other deadly drugs. Read more about [regulated machines](#).



Controlled Substance Ordering System Virtual Training Launched



DEA just released a [virtual training video](#) available to all current and potential users of the agency's Controlled Substance Ordering System (CSOS).

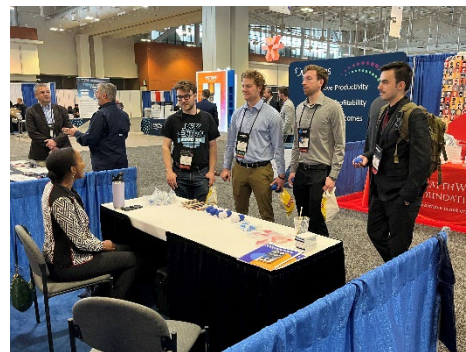
The program is designed to provide services to DEA-registered pharmaceutical drug manufacturers, distributors, pharmacies, hospitals, and others to transmit customer orders electronically.

Launched in December 2024, the enhanced system brings numerous benefits to the manufacturing, distribution, and pharmacy community. Since its inception, more than 2.3 million CSOS certificates have been issued.

American Pharmacists Association

DEA staff answered questions at the annual American Pharmacists Association conference in Nashville, Tenn. Pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians from across the country gathered to discuss opioids, controlled substances, and other issues.

The DEA works with the pharmacy community to prevent the diversion of pharmaceutical controlled substances and scheduled listed chemical products into the illicit market.



Diversion Control Division Enforcement



DEA's Diversion Control Division strives to prevent, detect, and investigate the diversion of controlled pharmaceuticals and listed chemicals from legitimate sources.

When the safety and health of the American people is in jeopardy, the DEA takes action against those who violate the law.

Three Convicted for Fraudulently Billing Over \$8 Million to Medicare and Medicaid

Through Opioid Addiction Treatment Clinics in Kentucky

March 24, 2025

India-Based Chemical Company and Top Employees Indicted for Unlawful Import of Fentanyl Precursor Chemicals

March 21, 2025

Doctor Sentenced for Health Care Fraud and Money Laundering

March 14, 2025

Medical Clinic Owners and Clinical Investigator Plead Guilty in Connection with Fraudulent Clinical Drug Trials

March 10, 2025

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