

Nationwide Prescription Scam

Targeting healthcare providers

How the fraud works

Claiming to operate on behalf of your patients, pharmacies submit faxes to your office requesting new prescriptions or refills for medications you have not previously ordered.

How to recognize it

Fraudulent requests may use pre-printed forms that list several medications.

The fax can be from a pharmacy in a state different from where the patient lives.

The request is written for just below the threshold requiring preauthorization.

What they're targeting

Requests commonly include:

- Topical pain-relief creams, especially for large quantities
- Over-the-counter topical pain-relief creams repackaged in kits
- Diabetic supplies, often in quantities of 100
- Durable medical equipment (DME), especially back and knee braces

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What you can do

- Pay special attention to faxed prescription requests and to requests you didn't initiate.
- Before signing and returning a prescription request, review and reconcile the request with the patient's medical record.
- Share this information with your staff.
- Encourage patients to discuss their prescriptions with their primary care providers. Urge them to report unsolicited phone calls or communications related to pharmaceutical or DME products.
- Report fraud. Call or email Humana's Fraud Hotline immediately if you suspect that you or your patients may be victims of health insurance fraud.
 - Phone 1-800-614-4126
 - Email siureferrals@humana.com.

The National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association estimates that financial losses due to healthcare fraud are in the tens of billions of dollars each year.