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FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME
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Important Information about Products Containing Hydrocodone

Dear Member,

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) officially announced the rescheduling of hydrocodone-combination drugs from a Schedule III to a Schedule II controlled substance beginning October 6, 2014. Our records show that you have filled a prescription for a hydrocodone combination product within the last six months.

Hydrocodone-containing medications play a key role in acute and chronic pain management, and can help patients with the activities of daily life. Typically, hydrocodone is combined with either aspirin or acetaminophen (Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet, Norco and their generic equivalents are some examples). The rescheduling will affect dozens of pain medications that contain hydrocodone. We encourage you to contact your doctor to discuss the impact these changes will have on your prescriptions. We are giving you early notification of these changes so you have time to contact your doctor and obtain new prescriptions, if needed.

What does rescheduling mean?

Automatic refills will no longer be allowed. The rescheduling means that all strengths, formulations and combination products that contain hydrocodone will have stricter requirements for prescribing and dispensing.

Why is the DEA making this change?

These changes are designed to minimize the misuse of these medications, while still making sure that patients with severe pain have reasonable access to the medications they need.



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What does this mean for you?

Beginning October 6, 2014:

- Any remaining refills on current hydrocodone products **will no longer be valid.**
- You will need to see your doctor **each time you need a refill** for a written prescription, which you will need to send to Catamaran Home Delivery.
 - Your doctor **will NOT be allowed to call in or fax** hydrocodone prescriptions.
 - In some states, nurses or physician assistants will no longer be able to prescribe hydrocodone medications.

If you have any questions, call Catamaran Member Services at the phone number listed on your pharmacy ID card. Representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to assist you.

Sincerely,

Catamaran

