

UTHSCSA Graduate Medical Education Policies

Section	General Policies and Procedures	Effective:	January 2011
Policy 2.1.22	Prescription Writing by Residents	Revised:	August 2011
		Responsibility:	Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education

**Prescription Writing by Residents**

Purpose	Residents in GME programs receive instruction in the proper construction and use of inpatient and outpatient drug and device prescriptions. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to the programs and their residents with respect to prescription writing by residents.
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This policy is subject to changes in applicable law and statutes.</li> <li>• Controlled substances can be prescribed by licensed providers only; Texas Medical Board PIT holders cannot prescribe controlled substances.</li> <li>• This policy applies to both electronic and paper-based prescription writing</li> <li>• For direct administration (e.g., intravenously, intrathecally, etc.) of controlled substances, a licensed provider can delegate the administration to a physician who is a PIT holder but the licensed provider must be physically present during the administration.</li> </ul> <p>An individual must have either a <u>Physician-in-Training permit (PIT)</u> per Chapter 171 of the Texas Medical Board Rules or a <u>Medical License</u> per Chapter 163 of the Texas Medical Board in order to function as a resident in a GME program.</p> <p>A physician-in-training (PIT) permit holder is restricted to the supervised practice of medicine that is part of and approved by the training program. The permit does not allow for the practice of medicine that is outside of the approved program. A resident on a <u>PIT</u> may only write prescriptions for patients whose care is supervised by attending physicians in the context of the GME program. A resident PIT-holder cannot independently write prescriptions for any individual outside of the context of the program. Specifically, a resident PIT-holder is forbidden to write any prescription for himself/herself, his/her family members, friends or acquaintances.</p> <p>A resident with a <u>medical license</u> in a GME program continues to function in that program under the supervision of attending physicians. A resident with a medical license may only write prescriptions for patients whose care is supervised by attending physicians in the context of the GME program. A resident with a medical license cannot independently write prescriptions for any individual outside of the context</p>

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	<p>of the program unless the resident is engaged in moonlighting as defined and regulated by UTHSCSA GME Policy 6.4 and applicable program-specific moonlighting policies, and appropriate medical records regarding the patient encounter which generated the prescription are created consistent with Texas Medical Board Rules.</p> <p>Given the professionalism concerns and medical records requirements of the Texas Medical Board Rules attendant to self-prescription or prescriptions written for family members, residents in GME programs are forbidden to write prescriptions for themselves or for family members regardless of whether they have a PIT or a medical license.</p> <p>A resident who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action ranging from a verbal warning through administrative status, probation or termination depending on the nature of the violation. Adverse actions resulting from violations of this policy will be reported to the Texas Medical Board.</p>
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