

Ensuring Branded Medication is Dispensed as Written

How to ensure the medication is dispensed as it was prescribed?

When writing a prescription referral, the language required by the respective state should be used to ensure the medicine is dispense as written. Each state has determined specific language necessary. Please refer below for exact language each state requires. A state DAW requirement may help you preserve your choice for branded medication if you decide that is the right option for your patient.

Disclaimer: State regulations subject to change, it is the responsibility of the writer to confirm current regulations.

State	To Select Branded Product
Alabama	Sign on Dispense as Written line - no additional requirements
Alaska	Handwrite, "Brand Medically Necessary"
Arizona	Handwrite, "Brand Medically Necessary" or "Dispense as Written"
Arkansas	Handwrite, "Do Not Substitute"; for Medicaid, submission of Med Watch form is required
California	Handwrite, "Do Not Substitute"
Colorado	Handwrite, "Dispense as Written"
Connecticut	Handwrite, "Brand Medically Necessary"; Medicaid, specify why brand medically necessary
Delaware	Handwrite, "Brand Medically Necessary"
DC	Handwrite, "Dispense as Written"
Florida	Handwrite, "Brand Medically Necessary"
Georgia	Handwrite, "Brand Necessary"
Hawaii	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Idaho	Substitution not permitted
Illinois	Handwrite "May not substitute"
Indiana	Sign on Dispense as Written line; Medicaid also handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Iowa	Handwrite "Do Not Substitute", Handwrite "Brand Name Necessary", Handwrite "Dispense as Written"
Kansas	Handwrite "Dispense as Written"
Kentucky	Handwrite "Do Not Substitute"
Louisiana	Handwrite "DAW"; Medicaid also handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Maine	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Maryland	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"

Michigan	Handwrite "Dispense as Written"
Minnesota	Handwrite, "Dispense as Written"
Mississippi	Sign on Dispense as Written; If no signature lines, handwrite "Dispense as Written"
Missouri	Handwrite "Do Not Substitute"
Montana	Handwrite "Brand Name Medically Necessary"
Nebraska	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Nevada	Handwrite "Dispense as Written"
New Hampshire	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
New Jersey	Handwrite "No Substitution"
New Mexico	Handwrite "No substitution"
New York	Handwrite "Dispense as Written"
North Carolina	Sign on Dispense as Written line; Medicaid, handwrite "Medically Necessary"
North Dakota	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Ohio	Handwrite "Dispense as Written"
Oklahoma	It is unlawful for a pharmacist to substitute any like drug, medicine, chemical, or pharmaceutical preparation without the authority of the prescriber
Oregon	Handwrite "No substitution"
Pennsylvania	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Rhode Island	Handwrite "Do Not Substitute"
South Carolina	Sign on Dispense as Written line - no additional requirements; Medicaid, handwrite "Medically Necessary"
South Dakota	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Tennessee	Prescriber must handwrite "Brand name medically necessary," "dispense as written," "medically necessary," "brand name," "no generic," or any abbreviation of this language or circle preprinted "dispense as written"
Texas	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Utah	Handwrite "Dispense as Written"
Vermont	Handwrite "brand necessary," "no substitution," "dispense as written," or "DAW"
Virginia	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Washington	Sign on Dispense as Written line - no additional requirements
West Virginia	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Wisconsin	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary"
Wyoming	Handwrite "Do Not Substitute"