



**Dora**  
Department of Regulatory Agencies

## Colorado State Board of Pharmacy

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**DATE:** August 26, 2008  
**TO:** Colorado Pharmacists and Colorado Pharmacies  
**FROM:** The Colorado State Board of Pharmacy  
**SUBJECT:** Notification Requirements for Generic Substitution

The Colorado State Board of Pharmacy has received several complaints recently alleging that pharmacists are not complying with CRS 12-22-124(3) when generically substituting medications. This statute requires that when substitution occurs, the purchaser must be notified both orally and in writing of this substitution. Such requirement is not necessary for institutionalized patients. The Board considers institutionalized patients to be those patients that are hospitalized, those that reside in correctional facilities, or in long term care facilities. Residents of assisted living facilities are only considered institutionalized patients if their medications are administered by facility personnel.

In addition, the prescription container must be labeled with the name of the drug dispensed and the file copy of the order must contain the name of the drug prescribed as well as that of the drug that was actually dispensed.

The Board wishes to eliminate any confusion regarding this issue. The law requires, and the Board expects, that all pharmacists and pharmacies will ensure that oral and written notification of generic substitution is provided when such substitution occurs.