

DEA Rescheduling Hydrocodone Products

Recently the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issued a final rule that rescheduled hydrocodone combination products (HCPs) to Schedule II controlled substances. This rule became effective on October 6, 2014.

Pursuant to Section 2 of the Optometric Practice and Licensure Act, the practice of optometry does not include the use of Schedule I and Schedule II controlled substances. Therefore, starting on October 6, 2014, Pennsylvania optometrists are not authorized to prescribe HCPs.