

FIFTH ANNUAL SAFE-RX™ AWARD CRITERIA



This sheet details how the annual Safe-Rx state rankings of e-prescribing activity will evolve from those calculated for calendar year 2008 to those that will be calculated for calendar year 2009 and beyond.

The 2008-based statistics were calculated solely on the volume of electronic prescriptions routed to retail and mail order pharmacies as a percentage of all prescriptions that could be routed electronically. This calculation will expand for 2009 to encompass all three critical steps in the electronic prescribing process:

1. **Prescription Benefit:** Electronically accessing a patient's prescription benefit information.
2. **Prescription History:** With a patient's consent, electronically accessing that patient's prescription history from pharmacies and payers.
3. **Prescription Routing:** Electronically routing the patient's prescription to his or her choice of pharmacy and electronically reviewing and responding to prescription renewal requests that pharmacies send to the physicians' practices for approval.

Rankings for the Fifth Annual Safe-Rx Awards – to be presented in 2010 – will take the following into account:

- 1/3:** Total number of requests for patient eligibility information and the total number of responses to these requests as a percentage of total patient visits in a particular state.

Note – Measuring the volume of these requests/responses will serve as a valuable proxy for measuring use of patient formulary information in the prescribing process.

- 1/3:** Total number of requests for patient prescription history and the total number of responses to these requests as a percentage of total patient visits in a particular state. This data is critical in allowing a prescriber to assess drug-drug and drug-allergy interactions.

- 1/3:** Total number of prescriptions routed electronically to both retail and mail order pharmacies (new prescriptions plus responses to prescription renewal requests) as a percentage of all prescriptions within a state that are able to be submitted electronically.

This approach recognizes the equal role that prescription benefit, history and routing services play in improving the overall quality and safety of the prescribing process. It is Surescripts' position that the actual use of all three of these services serves to define "meaningful use of electronic prescribing" under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

For more details about the annual Safe-Rx rankings please contact Michael Hughes, Senior Manager of Marketing Communications for Surescripts at (703) 921-2163, or michael.hughes@surescripts.com