

DISPENSE AS WRITTEN REQUIREMENTS DIFFER BY STATE AND TERRITORY



Dispense as Written (DAW) requirements help health care providers like you ensure patients get the right medication. Use the following guide to find out which language or special instructions are required by your state or territory.

DAW and Your Patients

When prescribing branded FOCALIN XR[®] (dexamethylphenidate), your patients can also play an active role at the pharmacy. Patients may:



REQUEST

Before medication is dispensed, patients may request the branded medication.



CHECK

When a prescription is filled, patients may verify that they have been dispensed branded medication.



CONFIRM

If patients do not receive the requested branded medication, they may talk to the pharmacist or call you to discuss options before leaving the pharmacy.

Questions? Visit www.focalinxr.com/hcp

Please see full [Prescribing Information](#), including **Boxed WARNING** and [Medication Guide](#).

Specific Dispense as Written (DAW) Requirements by State or Territory

Use the convenient chart below to determine which state- or territory-specific language or special instructions are necessary to preserve your choice for branded medication.

STATE	ON EACH PRESCRIPTION
Alabama	Sign on the appropriate prescription signature line.
Alaska	Handwrite "Brand Necessary" and sign.
Arizona	Expressly indicate that substitution is not allowed.
Arkansas	Handwrite "Brand Necessary" and sign.
California	Handwrite or verbally communicate "Do Not Substitute" or a similar expression. Allows use of preprinted "Do Not Substitute" as long as initialed.
Colorado	Handwrite "Dispense as Written" or initial a preprinted "Dispense as Written" box. Can be done electronically.
Connecticut	Indicate in own handwriting "DAW" or "Dispense as Written" along with the words "Medically Necessary."
Delaware	Indicate in own handwriting: "DAW," or "Dispense as Written."
DOC	Expressly indicate brand name in some manner.
Florida	Expressly indicate brand name in some manner.
Georgia	Handwrite "Brand Necessary" or "Brand Medically Necessary" and sign.
Guam	Handwrite "No Substitution" or abbreviate to "No Sub" on the face of the prescription.
Hawaii	Handwrite "Brand Necessary" or "Brand Medically Necessary" or product selection is allowed. Refer to Department of Health, Food, and Drug Branch.
Idaho	Expressly indicate brand name in some manner, and that substitution is not allowed.
Illinois	Mark the "May Not Substitute" box on the prescription.
Indiana	Sign on the appropriate line of the prescription.
Iowa	Expressly indicate substitution is not allowed.
Kansas	Sign on the appropriate line of the prescription and expressly indicate substitution not allowed.
Kentucky	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary" on the face of the prescription for Medicaid patients, or product selection is allowed. Indicate "Do Not Substitute" in some manner. Do not preprint on the prescription. Expressly indicate brand name in some manner.
Louisiana	Place a check mark in the "Dispense as Written" and/or "DAW" box.
Maine	Expressly indicate in some manner that substitution is not allowed. Check the preprinted box on the prescription.
Maryland	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary" on the face of the prescription for Medicaid patients. Product selection is allowed. Must indicate that substitution is not allowed.
Massachusetts	Expressly indicate "No Substitution."
Michigan	Indicate in own handwriting "Dispense as Written" or "DAW." Expressly indicates that prescription is to be dispensed as communicated for prescriptions other than those written.
Minnesota	Indicate in own handwriting "Dispense as Written" or "DAW," unless the prescription is transmitted electronically, in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations title 42, section 423.
Mississippi	Sign on the appropriate line of the prescription.
Missouri	If a prescriber orders by any means that a brand-name drug must be dispensed, then no drug selection is permitted.
Montana	Handwrite "Brand Name Medically Necessary." Can be printed if electronically generated.
Nebraska	Expressly indicate brand name in some manner.
Nevada	Handwrite "Dispense as Written" or "DAW."

Please see full [Prescribing Information](#), including **Boxed WARNING and [Medication Guide](#).**

State and territory regulations are subject to change. Please consult your state or territory's Board of Pharmacy and your state or territory's Medicaid office to verify prescribing requirements. See next page for additional states or territories.

Specific Dispense as Written (DAW) Requirements by State or Territory, continued.

STATE	ON EACH PRESCRIPTION
New Hampshire	Handwrite "Medically Necessary" on each paper prescription or use electronic indications when transmitted digitally. In addition, give instructions when transmitted orally that the brand is "Medically Necessary."
New Jersey	Sign on the appropriate line of the prescription.
New Mexico	Handwrite "No Substitution" or abbreviate "No Sub" on the face of the prescription.
New York	Indicate "Dispense as Written" in the designated box or positive indication of the brand for electronic prescriptions. Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary" on the face of the prescription for Medicaid patients or product selection is allowed.
North Carolina	Expressly indicate in some manner that substitution is not allowed. Sign on the appropriate line of the prescription.
North Dakota	Indicate in own handwriting "Brand Medically Necessary" and sign. Expressly indicate in some manner that substitution is not allowed.
Ohio	In case of written or electronic prescription, including computer-generated prescription, the prescriber handwrites or actively causes to display on the prescription "dispense as written," "DAW," "do not substitute," "brand medically necessary," or any other numerical code that indicates the prescriber's intent to prevent substitution. Such a designation shall not be preprinted or stamped on the prescription, but a reminder to the prescriber of the designated procedure may be preprinted or displayed on the prescription form or electronic system the prescriber uses to issue the prescription.
Oklahoma	Under state law, pharmacies must dispense the prescriber's choice. The patient or the prescriber can authorize a generic substitution.
Oregon	Write, telephone, or electronically transmit that there shall be no substitution for the branded drug in any prescription. For an electronically transmitted prescription, the prescriber or the prescriber's agent shall clearly indicate substitution instructions in the prescription drug order as well as all the relevant electronic indicators sent as part of the electronic prescription transmission.
Pennsylvania	Handwrite and sign "Brand Necessary" or "Brand Medically Necessary."
Puerto Rico	Must write on the face of the prescription, use own handwriting in writing the phrase, "Do Not Interchange."
Rhode Island	Indicate "Brand Necessary" or "Brand Medically Necessary" and sign. Patient must also request in writing that the brand name be dispensed.
South Carolina	Sign on the appropriate line of the prescription.
South Dakota	Must write in own handwriting "Brand Necessary," and sign.
Tennessee	Use own handwriting including writing the prescription with the following language (but not limited to): "brand name medically necessary," "dispense as written," "medically necessary," "brand name," "no generic,"; or any abbreviation of the language in the section above; or any other prescriber handwritten notation such as circling a preprinted "dispense as written" on the prescription order, that clearly conveys the intent that a brand name is necessary for the patient.
Texas	Use own handwriting to write "Brand Necessary" or "Brand Medically Necessary" or product selection is allowed.
Utah	Expressly indicate the brand name in some manner. Use of preprinted "Do Not Substitute" checked box is allowed.
Vermont	Use own handwriting to write "Brand Necessary," "No Substitution," "Dispense as Written," or "DAW."
Virginia	Handwrite "Brand Medically Necessary" on the face of the prescription for Medicaid patients. For non-Medicaid patients, the phrase must be included but is not required to be handwritten.
Washington	Sign on the appropriate line of the prescription.
West Virginia	Expressly indicate in some manner that substitution is not allowed. Must indicate by using own handwriting to write "Medically Necessary," "Brand Necessary," or "Brand Medically Necessary."
Wisconsin	Expressly indicate the brand name in some manner.
Wyoming	Expressly indicate that substitution is not allowed.

[Please see full Prescribing Information, including Boxed WARNING and Medication Guide.](#)

State and territory regulations are subject to change. Please consult your state or territory's Board of Pharmacy and your state or territory's Medicaid office to verify prescribing requirements.

SOURCE: The 2019 Survey of Pharmacy Law is trademark and copyright protected.
 © 2019 by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). All rights reserved.
 Permission to reprint granted by NABP.

