



CHAIRMAN'S MEMORANDUM

NO. 3-2013 February 12, 2013

TO: SHERIFFS, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS, COMMISSIONERS OF CORRECTION, NEW YORK CITY WARDENS, FACILITY MEDICAL DIRECTORS, HEALTH SERVICE ADMINISTRATORS, AND NURSE ADMINISTRATORS

RE: Changes to the New York State Public Health Law; Controlled Substance Schedule, section 3306

Effective February 23, 2013, the following changes will be made to the controlled substance schedule in section 3306 of the New York State Public Health Law.

The medication Tramadol, which includes the brand names of Ultram, Ultracet and Ryzolt, will be changed to a Schedule IV Controlled Substance. For the local correctional facilities, this would require that, in completing the controlled substance medication count, Tramadol will be added to the narcotic count ledger sheet. Tramadol will be accurately accounted for in a running inventory maintained by nursing staff. In the correctional facilities in which security personnel share in the responsibility of counting and signing the controlled medication ledger sheet, they will also be accountable for maintaining a correct count of Tramadol. The inventory record will include the signatures of personnel who are counting narcotics and ensuring the count is correct. Tramadol, like any other controlled substance, will be double locked in secure storage with key access to the medication limited to identified individuals.

It is important to note, particularly for providers and nursing staff, the change of the controlled substance hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab, Tussionex) from a Schedule III Controlled Substance to a Schedule II Controlled Substance. This action includes all products containing hydrocodone, including but not limited to hydrocodone used in combination with acetaminophen (Tylenol) and ibuprofen (Motrin). Effective 2/23/13, there will be no refills allowed on a hydrocodone prescription.

**New York State Commission of Correction
80 So. Swan Street, 12th Floor
Albany, New York 12210-8001**

**Thomas A. Beilein, Chairman
Phyllis Harrison-Ross, M.D., Commissioner**

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For more information on narcotic control and changes in the Public Health Law, please access the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement website at: <http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/narcotic> or contact the Bureau at their toll free number, 866-811-7957. Any questions can be directed to the Commission's Forensic Medical Unit at 518-485-2346.

Thomas A. Beilein, Chairman

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**Thomas A. Beilein, Chairman
Phyllis Harrison-Ross, M.D., Commissioner**