

1707.5 Patient Centered-Labels on Medication Containers

Labels on drug containers dispensed to patients in California shall conform to the following format to ensure patient-centeredness.

- a. In at least 12-point, san serif typeface, each of the following items shall be clustered into one area of the label:
  1. Name of the patient
  2. Name of the drug, brand and/or generic  
(Manufacturer's trade name, or the generic name and name of the manufacturer)
  3. Strength of the drug
  4. Directions for use
  5. Purpose or condition, if entered onto the prescription [or otherwise known to the pharmacy and desired by the patient]
- b. For added emphasis, the label may also place in bold typeface or color highlight items listed in subdivision (a).
- c. The elements in subdivision (a) shall be clustered together in a single area on the label.
- d. The remaining required elements for the label specified in Business and Professions Code section 4076 may be placed on the container in a manner so as to not interfere with emphasis of the primary elements specified in subdivision (a), and may appear in any style and size typefont.
- e. Directions for use shall whenever possible use one of the following phrases:
  1. List from Michael Wolf
- f. The board shall provide a list of translations of the directions for use in (e) in at least five languages other than English. This list shall be available from the board and posted on the board's Web site by October 2010 and updated as necessary.
- g. To aid pharmacies is designing patient-centered labels, the board shall collect and post on the board's Web site examples of labels that conform to these requirements.
- h. For patients who cannot read English but can read in another language, upon request, the pharmacy shall provide a prescription container labeled with the components specified in subdivision (a) in the language of the patient.
- i. When instructions for use specified by the prescriber do not conform to one of the items listed in subdivision (e) the pharmacy shall secure its own translation