

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY**

Having regard to:

1. the provisions of para 4 of Article 21 of Law 4052/2012;
2. the fact that the government budget shall not incur any expenditure as a result of this Decision;

We decide as follows:

1. As from 1 March 2012, all doctors (contracted with EOPYY or other funds under any type of contract, or not contracted, or employed by social security funds, hospitals and Health Centres under any type of employment agreement) shall be required to be connected to the e-prescription system as a condition for their prescriptions to be reimbursed by the respective fund.
2. If, for reasons pertaining to the technical adequacy of the system, doctors continue to prescribe manually, and until 1 June 2012, reimbursement by social security funds shall be subject to the requirement on the dispensing pharmacy to electronically register the manual prescription, obligatorily stating the names of the doctor and the patient. Any such entry shall be charged with €1, credited to the pharmacy's account in the system as handling fee and deducted correspondingly from the doctor's salary or contractual claim on the system.
3. By 1 June 2012 at the latest, all contracted and employed doctors shall be required to switch to electronic prescribing.
4. For the execution of manual prescriptions from doctors non-contracted or doctors outside the e-prescription system, until 30 June 2012, the e-prescription system shall open one account for each doctor and for each social security fund and shall require the payment of the amount by the end of June 2012. Doctors shall be required to pay such amounts within one month of their notification, otherwise the amounts shall be payable according to the Code for the Collection of Public Revenue. Non-contracted doctors who after 1 July 2012 still have not joined the e-prescription system shall forfeit the right to prescribe for social security funds.
5. Every month, the e-prescription system, supported by a system for the scanning of manual prescriptions, shall generate reports on doctors' prescribing behaviour and compliance with prescribing-related ministerial decisions and circulars. Specifically, the reports shall contain information on:
  - a) adjustment to the e-prescription system;
  - b) doctors' compliance with therapeutic protocols and prescribing guidelines;
  - c) the use of generics;
  - d) comparative data on prescription volumes, broken down by specialty, region and individual doctor.The reports shall be communicated to doctors with feedback and warning on prescription behaviour. Individual reports shall be aggregated on a quarterly basis and be communicated to the relevant entities and agencies; also, an annual report shall be published.
6. By decisions of its Management and by adapting its benefit regulations, EOPYY may establish incentives designed to encourage doctors' adjustment with guidelines and reward sound scientific conduct.

7. If the month-to-month monitoring of expenditure shows that doctors' adjustment falls short of the expected level, EOPYY and the other social security funds may impose additional measures to control consumption (by setting prescribing budgets per specialty and region or average prescription cost, etc.)

We order that this Decision be published in the Government Gazette.

Athens, 1 March 2012

THE MINISTER

**ANDREAS LOVERDOS**