

# E-prescription in Poland - a preliminary report.



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**Introduction:** E-prescription is a digital version of the previously used standard paper prescription. In Poland, professional arrangements were made, thanks to which it became possible to promote e-prescriptions in pharmacies and doctors' surgeries throughout the country.

**Aim of the paper:** to introduce the subject of e-prescription in Poland.

**Brief description of the current state of the art.** For years in Poland, handwritten prescriptions used to be the preferred method of communication for doctors when making decisions about therapy with medications and for pharmacists to distribute them. Nonetheless, over the last decade, interest in the subject of e-prescription, alongside other e-health solutions for processing health-related data, has increased. E-prescription is filled on the basis of a four-digit code, which we receive by text message sent to a given phone number or by email to an indicated address. Alternatively, there is a possibility to obtain an information printout, depending on the configuration of our Patient Account.

**Summary:** E-prescription provides benefits for doctors, patients and pharmacists, such as: convenience, time saving, greater safety of the therapy, less risk of error, less bureaucracy. The main objectives of the e-prescribing system involve facilitation of the process of prescriptions delivery, reduction of errors, time optimisation for doctors and pharmacists and eliminating the problem of illegible and fake prescriptions, which have so far been a common occurrence.

**Keywords:** e-prescription, electronic prescription, e-health