



South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia Emergency Refill Protocols

Laws and Protocols as of September 2018

Healthcare Ready blog on emergency prescription refill protocols:

<https://www.healthcareready.org/blog/state-emergency-refills>

South Carolina

- If the Governor declares a State of Emergency, pharmacists may dispense up to a 30-day refill (if not a controlled substance)
- *Relevant laws:*
 - **[SC Code 40-43-170](#) State of Emergency; prerequisites to emergency refills; dispensing of medications by pharmacists not licensed in this State.**
 - Note: State code on the website is incorrect (refill quantity was increased from 15 days to 30 in May 2018).

North Carolina

- Refills allowed for up to 30 days WITHOUT authorization from the prescriber (21 NCAC 46 .1809)
- Refills allowed for up to 90 days WITH authorization from the prescriber (21 NCAC 46 .1815)
- *Relevant laws:*
 - **[21 NCAC 46 .1809](#) EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTION REFILLS**
 - **[21 NCAC 46 .1815](#) (Page 5 of link) EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTION REFILL DUE TO INTERRUPTION OF MEDICAL SERVICES**

Virginia

- The Board may waive requirements to allow pharmacists to dispense drugs, devices, or pharmacy services when the Governor has declared a disaster or a state of emergency.
- *Relevant laws:*
 - **[Code of Virginia 54.1-3307.3](#). Waiver of requirements; declared disaster or state of emergency.**

Maryland

- In general: a pharmacist can provide 1 refill of a prescription (not exceeding a 14-day supply) WITHOUT authorization. In this case the pharmacist must notify the authorized prescriber of the refill within 72 hours.
- Under state of emergency: pharmacist can provide 1 refill not exceeding a 14-day supply. Pharmacist must notify authorized prescriber of the refill within 7 days.
- *Relevant laws:*



- **2010 Maryland Code. HEALTH OCCUPATIONS –TITLE 12 - PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACIES, Subtitle 5 - Practice of Pharmacy and Operation of Pharmacies, [Section 12-506](#) - Guidelines for unauthorized refills.**

District of Columbia

- No emergency refills allowed