



Illinois Department of Financial and
Professional Regulation

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Rules take Effect and Increase Access and Protect the Safety of Illinois Health Care Consumers

SPRINGFIELD – Two new rules designed to improve the quality of and access to better health care, crafted by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, took effect earlier this month.

[The Pharmaceutical Access](#) rule ensures that Illinois patients who receive a prescription from their family doctor will have a reasonable assurance that their local pharmacy will fill the prescription in a timely manner. It requires each licensed retail pharmacy to deliver lawfully prescribed drugs and non-prescription drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration for restricted distribution by pharmacies, and was designed to protect patients from having to travel extraordinary distances or to multiple pharmacies to obtain highly time sensitive medication.

[The Dental Sedation](#) rule requires new dental sedation training for dentists and their staff. The new dental sedation rules were developed after two Chicago area patients died after being sedated for dental treatment. It increases the amount of training needed by assistants and dental hygienists who assist in cases where a patient is sedated. It also clarifies what monitoring equipment must be used and specifies monitoring procedures for the dental professionals involved in every case involving light and moderate sedation. It also clearly defines a dentist's responsibility to ensure that staff are appropriately trained and equipped to provide emergency patient care if needed.