

Responsible e-prescribing needs e-discontinuation.

February 15, 2017

Fischer SH, Rose AJ. Responsible e-Prescribing Needs e-Discontinuation. JAMA. 2017;317(5):469-470. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.19908.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/responsible-e-prescribing-needs-e-discontinuation>

[E-prescribing](#) is a key strategy to improve medication safety by addressing illegible prescriptions, order omissions, and dosage confusion. However, there have been [unintended consequences](#) such as the inability to [discontinue medications](#) ordered electronically. This commentary reviews problems associated with this unintended consequence and suggests that enabling electronic cancellation of prescriptions can help address the issue. A [WebM&M commentary](#) discussed a case involving an electronic prescribing error.