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### **Information to Pharmacists Regarding Schedule II Controlled Dangerous Substance Dispensing Limits for Liquids**

The Division of Consumer Affairs, in conjunction with the Board of Pharmacy, is providing the following information to pharmacists concerning the dispensing limits of Schedule II Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) for liquid medications.

Prescriptions for Schedule II CDS medications are not to exceed 120 dosage units or a 30-day supply, whichever is less, with limited exceptions<sup>1</sup>. When dispensing Schedule II CDS liquid medications, pharmacists should follow the concentration volume as determined by the manufacturer's packaging insert.

Pharmacists should always use their professional judgment before dispensing any prescription to a patient. (*N.J.A.C. 13:39-7.13*)

**For example:**

A manufacturer that indicates a product's concentration as 125mg/5mL would have the concentration volume of **5mL per dosage unit**. This would result in a maximum dispensable quantity of 600mL or a 30-day supply, whichever is less. (5mL per dosage unit x 120 dosage units = 600mL.)

A manufacturer using a product concentration of 50mg/1mL would have the concentration volume of **1mL per dosage unit**. This would result in a maximum dispensable quantity as 120mL or 30-day supply, whichever is less. (1mL per dosage unit x 120 dosage units = 120mL.)

If a product has multiple product concentrations (i.e. morphine sulfate), a pharmacist should consult the manufacturer's packaging insert to determine the appropriate manufacturer's **dosage unit** to use when dispensing a patient prescription.

<sup>1</sup> *N.J.A.C. 13:45H-7.8(f)*