

From: wexy@
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2004 6:54 PM
To: CONTACTLENSRULE
Subject: FTC PROPOSED RULE REGARDING CONTACTS RX'S

My name is Steven Wexler. I am a practicing optometrist in Illinois and have concerns about the contact lens rulings.

May I add a few points?

Firstly, The eight hour limitation for doctors to respond back to an Rx release requests must be extended out to at least one day or perhaps up to 3 days. Many doctors still don't own fax units which delays the processes of communication. Secondly, if the doctor is out of the office for several days or is working at other satellite offices, there is just no way to get the rx approval within eight hours, let alone one day.

Even to this day I still have patients who return for their annual eyecare exams who tell me they continue to be able to order their contacts based on 2 -3 year old expired contact lens prescriptions from their mail order companies. This travesty occurs on a regular basis. It's not just coming from my patients, but any doctors will tell you that they witness the same scenerio; that is, patients still can get their rx's fill well beyond their expiration dates! Monetary fines must be incurred if the companies are found guilty. They must be held accountable and the best way to stop their illegal activity is to hit them financially, and if that doesn't work, suspend their license to sell contacts for 30 days, 60 days, 90 days, and so on.

Contact lens mail order companies notoriously switch patients into what they see as equal or identical contact lens Rx's. This practice should be stopped. They know better than to not dispense anything but the exact name and parameters of the Contact Rx as stated by the doctor. Yet, they continue to disregard dispensing exact Rx's.

Thank you very much for reading this.

Steve Wexler, O.D.