On February 14, 2019, Governor Ducey signed House Bill (HB) 2075 into law, which is effective immediately. This law extends the requirement of electronic prescribing of opioids to January 1, 2020 for ALL Arizona counties. The new law also eliminates the requirement for a waiver since all counties now have until January 1, 2020 to comply.

Additionally, the new law clarifies that physician assistants may issue up to 30-day prescriptions for schedule II, III, IV and V controlled substances that are opioids and benzodiazepines. PAs are still required to follow the statute for initial prescribing of opioids as stated in the Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act, and be delegated to prescribe by their supervising physician. We encourage all PAs and their supervising physicians to collaborate and ensure that their delegation agreements confer appropriate prescribing authority.