Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
Advancing Excellewnce in Health Care

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Enabling e-Prescribing and Enhanced Management of Controlled Medications

(Grant #: RH18 HS 17157)

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Value to Practitioners

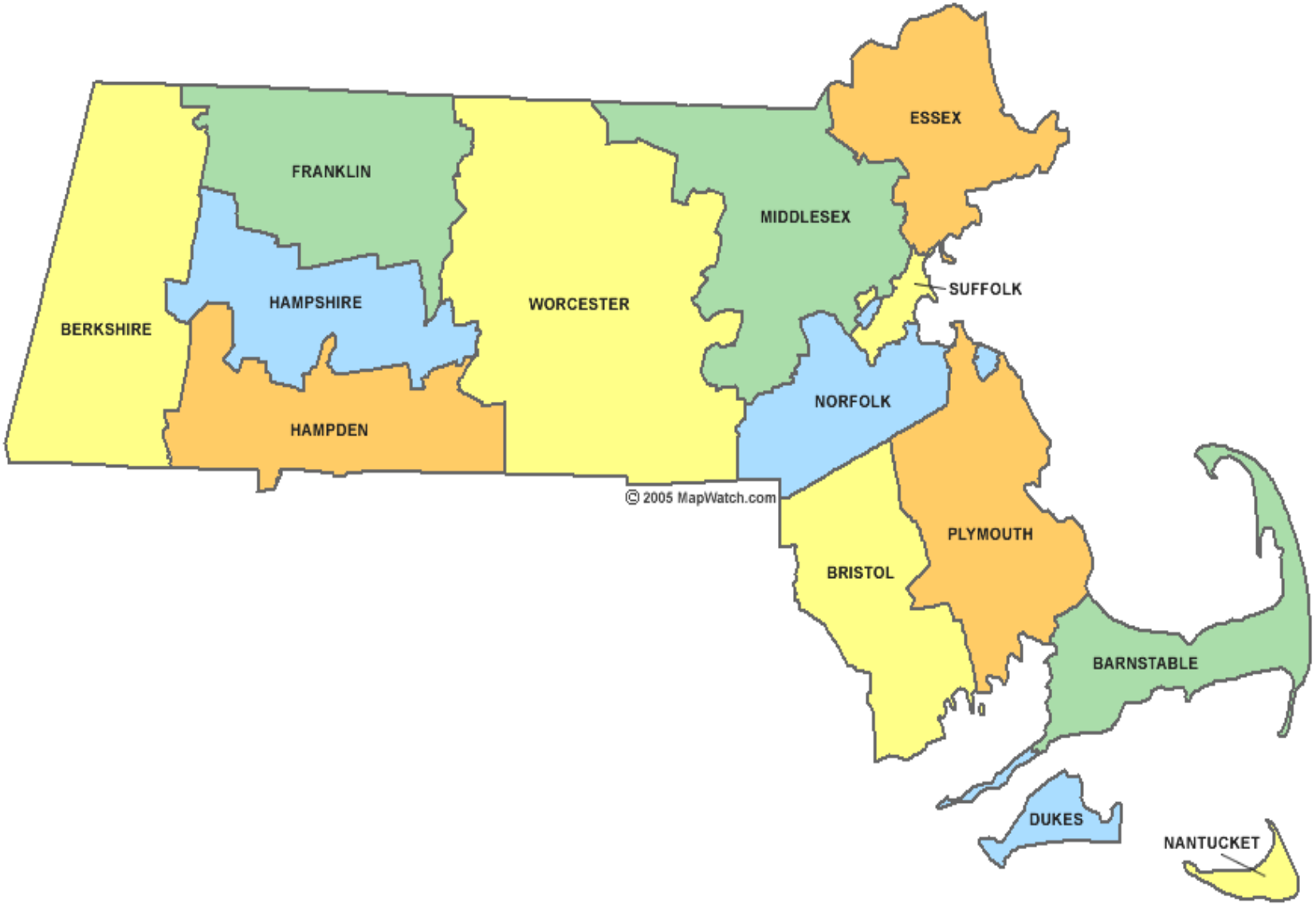
1) Advance e-Prescribing
   - Demonstrate that controlled medications can be e-prescribed safely with an efficient workflow
2) Improve medication safety
   - Enable consistent management of all medication types by presenting the prescriber with the most complete information available

Project Origins

Started in 2006

Community Pain Management Initiative

Based in Berkshire County Massachusetts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Project Collaborators

MA Department of Public Health, Drug Control Program

Berkshire Health Systems, Inc.

Brandeis University

Dr. First, Inc.

eRx Network, an Emdeon company

U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration

Global Sage Group (3rd party security analysis)

Supported by a grant from AHRQ

Project Purpose and Method

- Improve e-prescribing for end users
- Research, test and demonstrate the safety, security, quality, and effectiveness of e-prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS)
- Evaluate prescribers' experience with e-prescribing

Key Issues for EPCS

- Ease and convenience for users
- Law enforcement / regulatory requirements
- Schedule II vs. Schedule III-V

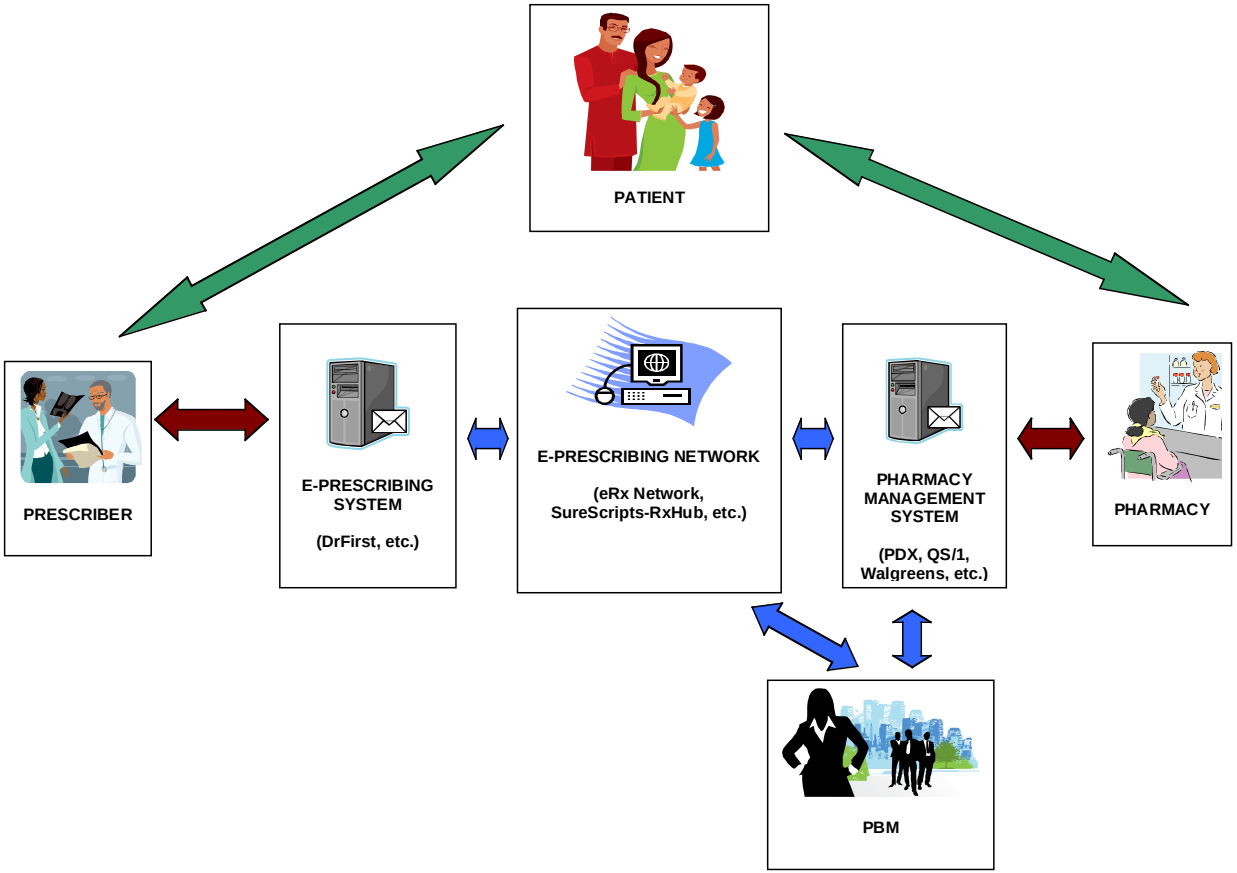
Benefits of a Solution

- Safety
- Ease of use
- Tracking
- Reduce fraud and abuse

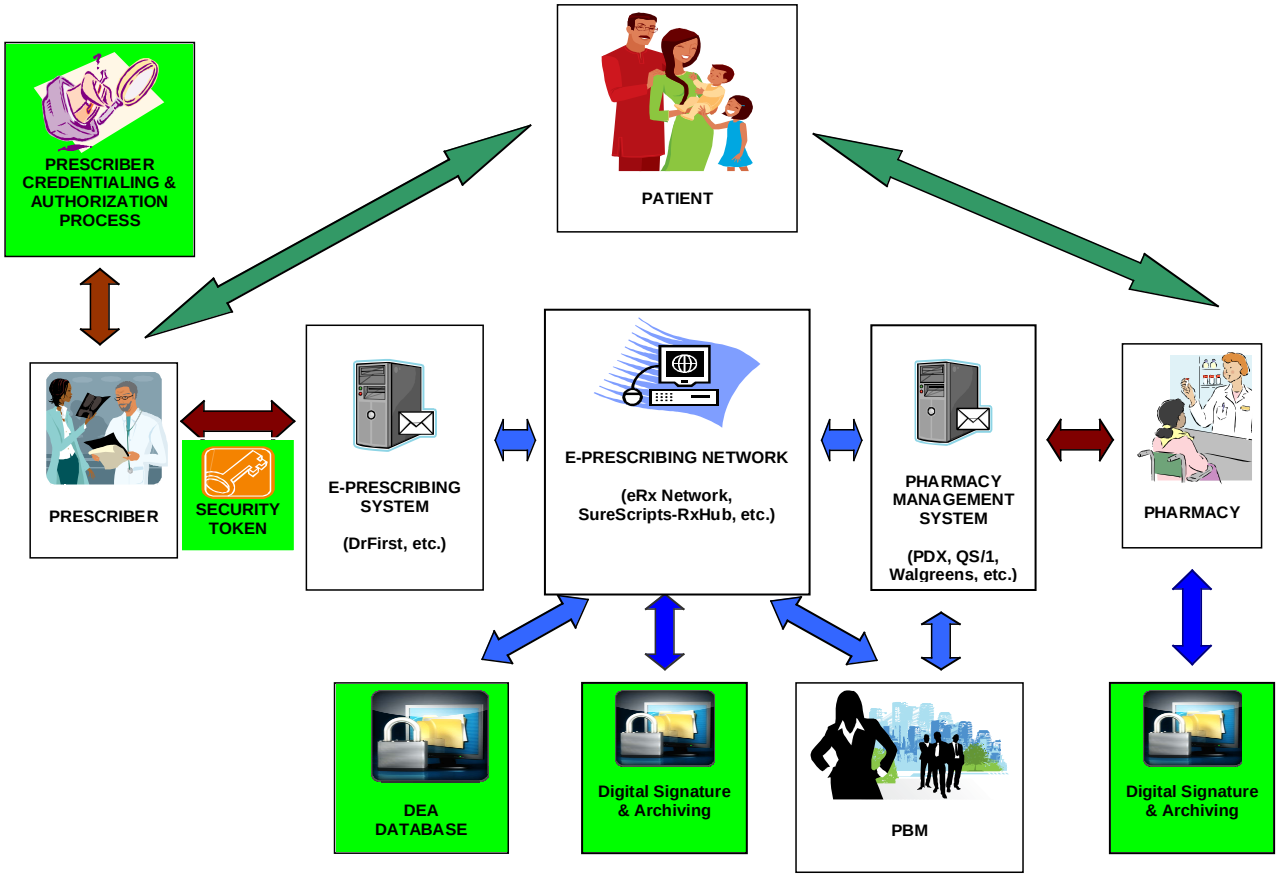
Controlled Medication Prescribing

- Controlled Substances Act
- Drug Enforcement Administration
  - Memorandum of Agreement
  - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking vs. Interim Final Rule

e-Prescribing – non EPCS Transaction



e-Prescribing – EPCS Transaction



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EPCS Demonstration