A recent survey revealed that about 10% of prescribers admitted to having their DEA number stolen, or compromised. In addition, 29% of the prescribers know a colleague who has fallen prey to DEA number fraud. A stolen DEA number can lead to hundreds if not thousands of fraudulent prescriptions.

When a prescriber’s DEA number is stolen or compromised there are several things that can occur. First, the prescriber may not be able to prescribe for a number of weeks, or possibly months, while the DEA processes their new number. Second, a comprehensive investigation into the incident, involving the institution’s Board of Physicians or Board of Advanced Practice Nurses. This can take a significant amount of time and can be an arduous process. Any physician found guilty of engaging in the theft of a DEA number can be stripped of their medical license and face punitive damages.

The process of investigating DEA number breaches places unnecessary pressure on institutions, particularly when institution-wide DEA numbers are compromised. These breaches can halt all prescribing at an institution, and incur huge costs in processing fees, investigation processes, labor hours, and lost productivity.

Implementing Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances (EPCS) will help keep DEA numbers secure while still allowing physicians to prescribe efficiently.
About Imprivata

Imprivata (NYSE: IMPR), the healthcare IT security company, is a leading provider of authentication and access management solutions for the healthcare industry. Imprivata offers single sign-on, authentication management and secure communications solutions that enable fast, secure and more efficient access to healthcare information technology systems. Imprivata solutions address multiple security challenges and improve provider productivity for better focus on patient experience.

Enabling EPCS securely with Imprivata Confirm ID

The DEA allows EPCS only if certain requirements are met and a secure, auditable chain of trust is established for the entire EPCS process. Imprivata Confirm ID™ is the fast, secure signing solution for e-prescribing of controlled substances. Imprivata Confirm ID enables a major shift to electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS) by delivering the first comprehensive product that simplifies adoption of regulatory requirements for EPCS while helping providers address inefficiencies and potential fraud caused by paper based prescriptions. The solution creates a secure chain of trust by simplifying provider identity proofing, enabling supervised enrollment, and enforcing two factor authentication requirements while maintaining a comprehensive audit trail throughout the entire process.

Imprivata Confirm ID elegantly simplifies EPCS workflows by:

- Integrating directly into the e-prescribing workflows of leading EMR applications
- Supporting DEA compliant fingerprint biometrics and tokens, providing must-have flexibility for all clinical workflows
- Automating authentication modality presentation – clinician is only prompted for what is available and allowed
- Operating in any SSO environment as a stand-alone solution

Imprivata Confirm ID: Fast, Secure Signing for E-prescribing of Controlled Substances

For more information about Imprivata Confirm ID and how it helps meet DEA and state-level compliance requirements for EPCS, visit www.imprivata.com/EPCS.